

THE JOURNAL

Friday, March 4, 2005 ☆

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Sports Cougars' Porras shows grit in reaching CIF wrestling championships [C1]

Arts & Leisure Time to party Highland-style in Piedmont [C8]

Developer defends waterfront plans Council OKs tax hike survey

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Since moving his office on Solano Avenue, MATT MIDDLEBROOK, an executive with developer Caruso Affiliated, has written an earful from residents about what kind of development they want along the waterfront.

But he hasn't met with former mayor Robert Cheasty. "I think Mr. Caruso should go back to Southern California with development plans," said Cheasty, the president of the City of Eastshore State Parks. People have been working for weeks to get a waterfront park, a waterfront development."

But Middlebrook, a vice president in government relations for Caruso Affiliated, which has been working on the waterfront lots at Golden Gate Fields, said he has no plans to work there for three days a week in Albany at an office at Solano Ave., coincidentally the floor to Cheasty's law office.

Over the past several weeks, Cheasty and other representatives of his firm and Golden Gate Fields have met with civic leaders and waterfront committee members to hear what people want to see on the waterfront. He believes many residents want more than just parks.

That people simply want a park down there is not the input he's gotten from people," said Middlebrook. "We've gotten a diversity of opinion."

Magna Entertainment Corp., owner of Golden Gate Fields, and its developer, Caruso Affiliated, have had people talking before Middlebrook moved. Caruso Affiliated has built five developments in Southern California, ranging from 40,000 square feet to 575,000 square feet. It has six projects now in development, including one at the waterfront lots on the northwest corner of Golden Gate Fields. The Los Angeles Times reported that CEO Rick Caruso last year spent more than \$2.6 million campaigning for a mall in the area.

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MATT MIDDLEBROOK, vice president of government relations for Caruso Affiliated, which has plans to develop the parking lots at Golden Gate Fields racetrack, has established a local presence with the opening of an office on Solano Avenue — next door to the law office of Robert Cheasty, whose East Shore Parks group opposes large-scale waterfront development.

■ A research firm will poll residents to see how receptive they are to a proposed increase for landscaping and lighting

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — A research firm will survey residents to see how much they're willing to increase the city's landscape and lighting tax, and determine their spending priorities.

The City Council at its Monday, Feb. 28 meeting authorized the city manager to hire Godbe Research.

The council created the lighting and landscaping assessment district in June 1988. The levy was \$72 per single family home to raise money for improvements and maintenance at city parks, landscaping areas and street lighting.

However, the tax now fails to cover \$383,000 worth of annual expenses, and the city makes up the difference.

"With the current pressures on the general fund, it is becoming increasingly important for the LLAD to become self-sufficient," states a report written by City Manager Scott Hanin.

Godbe in 2003 asked residents about a tax increase. Some 34 percent of residents said they supported increasing the tax by the amount of inflation since 1988.

Support increased to 67 percent when the pollsters explained that the amount had not been increased since 1988 and the increase — in 2003 — would be \$48.

"This indicated strong support," Hanin wrote in his report.

Without discussion, the council approved the new survey at a cost of no more than \$27,076. Results are expected in May.

In other business, residents Denise Sangster and Brit John-

See POLL, Page A7

Judge rules against city on back tax

■ Former mayor wins his case against an El Cerrito utility user's tax he said was collected illegally

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — A Contra Costa Superior Court judge has ruled in favor of a former mayor who claimed the city had illegally collected a utility users tax since 1997 and sought the return of his money in small claims court.

Temporary judge Clare M. Maier ruled the city should reimburse resident Ken Berndt \$191.41 plus court costs for his payment from October 2003 to November 2004 of the city's utility users tax, an 8-percent tax on gas and electric, cable television and telephone bills.

Maier rejected the city's argument that voters retroactively approved the tax to 1997 by passing a ballot measure last November.

"Because the utility users tax was not offered to the voters as a ballot measure, it became an illegal tax as of July 1, 1997," the ruling states. "It follows that the city of El Cerrito is liable for the taxes paid by Mr. Berndt in 2003-2004."

See UTILITY, Page A7

Utility tax timeline

June 1991: City Council approves utility users tax.

November 1996: Prop. 218 approved by state voters, requiring retroactive voter approval of city-imposed taxes.

November 2004: Voters approve Measure K, the city's utility users tax.

Rotary head needs breather

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Kevin Stong, president of the Rotary Club of El Cerrito, joked that he's going to collapse following several weeks including a Cerrito Vista Park improvement dedication and hosting two Russian business leaders learning about the American dental industry.

And there's more to come. On March 13 the Rotary will hold a pancake breakfast at Windrush School from 8 a.m. to noon, to raise money to buy defibrillators for the city. And on March 11, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., members will meet at the bar at the community

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

WHAT: Pancake breakfast sponsored by the Rotary Club of El Cerrito. The event will include puppet shows, storytelling and a silent auction.

WHEN: 8 a.m. to noon March 13

WHERE: Windrush School, 1800 Elm St.

HOW MUCH: Adults \$5; children \$4

INFORMATION: Call 510-237-4447

center, 7007 Moeser Lane, for the city's first business reception.

"After the pancake breakfast, I'm going to collapse as president of the Rotary Club," said Stong, an El Cerrito architect. "I think I will stare at a wall and drool. A busy month is an understatement."

See ROTARY, Page A7

Family questions police chase events

By Karl Fischer
STAFF WRITER

OAKLAND — A UC Berkeley graduate student remained comatose Wednesday with little hope of recovery, six days after a motorist fleeing police slammed into his car at Ashby and San Pablo avenues.

His parents, who flew to Highland Hospital from Shanghai last weekend, remain unsure how it happened, and his friends wonder whether the Albany police officer chasing the motorist acted properly.

But those who care for 24-year-old Jie Wang say they are sure about one thing: As long as doctors say he has a chance, they will not give up hope that the promising chemistry student will recover.

HOW TO HELP

For information about how to donate for Jie Wang's medical care, visit www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~bcssa.



Jie Wang

"His parents are faced with a choice right now. (Wang) has a 5 to 10 percent chance to live not as a vegetable. It's a small chance, but his parents still want the best for him," said Xiaqing Wang, the victim's aunt. "They want him to live, so everyone please help."

Wang's parents, Jiaqing Wang



YIMING HUANG, right, talks Wednesday about the shock of seeing his cousin Jie Wang hospitalized after an accident Feb. 24. Wang's parents, Jiaqing Wang and Baozhen Zhang, are at left and center.

and Baozhen Zhang, told what little they knew about the crash at the hospital Tuesday afternoon.

An Albany police officer witnessed what a city spokeswoman

described as a drug deal inside a Honda Civic near the Albany waterfront about 8:50 p.m. Feb. 24. The officer chased the car

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ALBANY JAZZ BAND

THE ALBANY Jazz Band will play at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Ocean View Elementary School in a free concert that includes favorite tunes such as Count Basie's "Corner Pocket," Gershwin's "I Loves You Porgy" and Bob Haggart's "South Rampart Street Parade." Cabaret seating, dancing and refreshments are available. The concert is sponsored by Albany Adult Education. Ocean View Elementary is at 1000 Jackson St., Albany. For more information call 510-524-9530.

NEWS BRIEFS

Albany

Hansen memorial bench to be dedicated

The Ethel V. Hansen memorial bench will be dedicated at 3:15 p.m. on March 15 at Solano and Talbot avenues.

Hansen was the city's first crossing guard, helping children to cross at that corner for 33 years, until her death at 85 in November, 2003, said granddaughter Erika Black, whose family raised more than \$1,500 to buy the bench and plaque. Refreshments will follow the dedication. For details call Black at 510-967-9296.

Planning meeting slated for centennial

Organizers of the city's 2008 centennial celebration will meet from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. Tasks to be addressed include organizing events, promotions, presentations, exhibits and media coverage, as well as working on the Centennial Book.

El Cerrito

Auction will benefit Harding Elementary

Celebrity items including an autographed SpongeBob Squarepants photo, a "Seabiscuit" script signed by director Gary Ross and a "Scrubs" script signed by the entire cast are among items that will be available at the Harding Goes Hollywood Auction to be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on March 12.

Items from local merchants include Berkeley Rep theater tickets, brunch for two at Inn Kensington, an Albany Bowl party for 10 people, passes to Marine World, and more. Proceeds support PTA-sponsored programs at Harding Elementary School such as Berkeley Rep in the classroom, art classes and music instruction.

The event will be held at the Fairmont Elementary multipurpose room, 7230 Stockton Ave. To donate items or for more information, call 510-558-1578 or go on-line at www.hardingpta.org.

Park commission opposes tree change

The city's parks and recreation commission opposes an effort to move oversight of city trees to a city tree committee and has recommended that tree oversight, combined with city landscaping, remain under its purview.

The parks commission also recommended against decreasing commission terms from four years to two, in response to suggested changes to how city boards and commissions operate by El Cerrito Vice Mayor Janet Abelson and Mayor Sandi Potter.

The council's recommended changes include having the tree commission meet monthly to discuss issues affecting city trees and limiting the parks and recreation commission to overseeing landscaping issues within parks, playgrounds and recreation facilities.

The other potential changes to all city boards and commissions include adopting a code of conduct for volunteers and dismissing commissioners if they miss three meetings a year.

All of the city's boards, commissions and committees will have a chance to weigh in on the recommended changes before the City Council takes up the issue, tentatively scheduled for March 21, said Karen Pinkos, assistant to the city manager.

Goal-setting session on tap for El Cerrito

The El Cerrito City Council will hold a goal-setting session from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, at the City Council Chambers, 7007 Moeser Lane. For more information, call the city clerk at 510-215-4305.

Fairmont school holds kindergarten tours

Fairmont Elementary School will hold kindergarten tours from 8:30-10 a.m. Wednesday and Thursday. Families are invited to meet Principal Brenda Surgers, tour classrooms and facilities and ask questions.

The school is at 724 Kearney St. To make a reservation, call 510-525-5235.

— Compiled by Deborah Byrd and Alan Lopez

Broken water main leads to marijuana plant

By Karl Fischer
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO—A broken water main cut a four-foot-deep hole in Mira Vista Drive on Feb. 25, flooding a house in the hilly neighborhood.

A small marijuana plantation found inside the house was not damaged, police said, though the discovery forced relocation of several pets to an animal shelter and two people to County Jail in Martinez.

"Firefighters went into the house to help the displaced residents," said El Cerrito detective Sgt. Shawn Maples. "When they went inside, they smelled something funny."

They smelled about 15 mature plants and 70 seedlings, Maples said. The plants and indoor gardening accoutrements were on low benches above the water in a back room.

Police and agents from the West Contra Costa Narcotics En-

forcement Team searched the house and found about half a pound of dried, packaged marijuana and a similar amount of hashish, a bulletproof vest, holsters for several handguns, two assault rifles, two dogs, two cats and a pet snake.

The 3 a.m. break flooded no other houses, though it did close the 2600 block of Mira Vista for most of the day while an East Bay Municipal Utility District crew repaired the pipe, which ruptured again around mid-day.

The utility could not find the cause of the break, said spokesman Jeff Becerra.

Police arrested the residents, 20-year-old Nicholas Roman and 23-year-old Carrie Pinkerton, on suspicion of possessing drugs for sale and cultivating marijuana.

Neighborhood residents complained in the past of too-frequent traffic at the house, Maples said, but police previously had no evidence of drug dealing there.



EL CERRITO POLICE DETECTIVE Don Horgan bags up marijuana recovered from an indoor growing operation house on Mira Vista Drive in El Cerrito on Feb. 25. Police also found several handguns, two assault rifles and a bulletproof vest. Two people were taken into custody at County Jail.

ALBANY POLICE REPORTS

Monday, Feb. 21

■ **ROBBERY AT GUNPOINT** — At about 11 p.m. a resident reported that he had just been robbed by two subjects described as male juveniles while near Dartmouth Street and Cornell Avenue. The subjects held a gun to his head and stole his identification and cell phone. It appeared that they had been dropped off by someone in a small red vehicle, possibly a Toyota. The robbers were last seen running toward San Pablo Avenue.

Wednesday, Feb. 23

■ **MAIL THEFT** — Thieves broke into mailboxes on the 400 block of Talbot Avenue during the night.

■ **HOME BURGLARY** — At about 2:45 p.m. a resident at 545 Pierce St. reported he had just returned home and discovered his apartment had been burglarized. Rooms were messed up and items were missing.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — An Albany resident reported that her silver Toyota Sienna parked at the Albany Library in the 1200 block of Marin Avenue was burgled and stolen items

from inside.

■ **VANDALISM** — At about 10 p.m. a resident on the 1200 block of Garfield Street reported that vandals shot out a window of her home.

Thursday, Feb. 24

■ **HOME BREAK-IN** — At about noon it was discovered that thieves had broken into a residence on the 700 block of Cerrito Street.

■ **HOME BREAK-IN** — Thieves broke into a residence on the 1000 block of Masonic Avenue.

Friday, Feb. 25

■ **TOOLS STOLEN** — Overnight thieves stole tools from a construction site in the 700 block of Curtis Street.

■ **CHEVROLET RECOVERED** — Just before midnight officers located a white and tan colored '86 Chevrolet near Solano and Cleveland avenues that had been stolen out of Richmond.

■ **HOME BREAK-IN** — Thieves entered a residence in the 1000 block of Evelyn Avenue and stole items.

Saturday, Feb. 26

■ **VANDALISM** — At about 2 a.m. vandals threw a rock through the front window of a residence on the 900 block of Kains Avenue.

■ **VANDALISM** — Vandals damaged an '02 Honda Civic in a garage in the 400 block of Evelyn Avenue.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night thieves broke into a red '73 Honda Civic in the 800 block of Hillside Avenue.

■ **ARREST** — Officers stopped a black '97 Pontiac near Solano and Kains avenues for a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, a 41-year-old Albany man, for driving with a suspended license and a San Mateo warrant in the amount of \$3,000.

■ **PHYSICAL ABUSE** — At about 8:30 p.m. officers responded to the 1100 block of Cornell Avenue on reports of a woman being physically beaten while in a vehicle. They arrested a 26-year-old Albany man for causing corporal injury and an outstanding Berkeley warrant.

■ **ROBBERY AT GUNPOINT** — At 10 p.m. a man reported being robbed at gunpoint by two men while in the

500 block of San Pablo Avenue.

Sunday, Feb. 27

■ **HONDA STOLEN** — There was a black '94 Honda Civic parked at 500 block of Pomona Avenue.

■ **FLOODING** — There were reports of flooding in the evening.

■ **DRIVING WITHOUT A LICENSE** — At about 10 p.m. officers stopped a 19-year-old Richmond woman driving her Ford Mustang without a license. She was also cited for driving or delaying an officer.

Weekly summary

During the week of February 21, officers towed six vehicles, responded to nine false alarms, and assisted people who were locked out of their cars. In the domestic arena, officers responded to seven civil citations and 195 civil assists. Officers stopped 61 vehicles or persons in 19 citations and 42 warrants. A firefighter/paramedic responded to three fire calls and medical emergencies.

EL CERRITO POLICE REPORTS

Tuesday, Feb. 22

■ **BURGLARY** — A handgun, shotgun and electronic items were taken from a home on the 500 block of Liberty Street between 11:05 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. The home, ransacked, was entered through a backdoor.

■ **BURGLARY** — Someone took cash and credit cards from a wallet in a storage room at a business on the 6500 block of Gladys Avenue, between 8 and 11:40 a.m.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1987 Honda Accord was taken from the 2600 block of Carquinez Avenue between 11:50 p.m. on Feb. 22 and 9 a.m. the next day.

Wednesday, Feb. 23

■ **VEHICLE THEFT, RECOVERY** — A 1994 Cadillac El Dorado was taken from the 1000 block of Havens Place

sometime on Feb. 22 or Feb. 23. The vehicle was later located in the Los Angeles area.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1995 Saturn SLV was taken from the 3200 block of Santa Clara Avenue between 8:45 p.m. on Feb. 23 and 9:40 a.m. the next day.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1991 Honda CRX was taken from Cutting Boulevard at Kearney Street between 6 a.m. and 1:20 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 24

■ **ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN** — A man attempting to enter a home on the 7300 block of Terrace Drive fled after being confronted by the resident at the backdoor at 2:30 p.m. The man first rang the doorbell of the home and walked to the backdoor after no one answered.

■ **BURGLARY** — Electronic equipment was taken from a construction site on the 1400 block of Richmond Street between 2 p.m. on Feb. 24 and noon the next day.

Friday, Feb. 25

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1994 Saturn was seen being driven by a suspected car thief at Alva and Jordan avenues at 2:09 p.m.

■ **BICYCLE THEFT** — A boy was punched in the face after he confronted four other juveniles, about 14 years old, attempting to steal his bicycle at El Cerrito Plaza. The juveniles fled without the bicycle.

Saturday, Feb. 26

■ **SHOPLIFTING** — At 11 a.m., five people ran into a Safeway, grabbed property worth a total of \$1,000 and ran out. The robbers fled in an older-model purple Cadillac.

Sunday, Feb. 27

■ **BURGLARY** — Computers, cam-

eras and other digital equipment were taken from a computer lab at a private school at 5 a.m. Police are investigating the crime after responding to a burglar alarm.

Monday, Feb. 28

■ **ROBBERY** — A 63-year-old woman was thrown to the ground and robbed of her purse as she walked on the 600 block of San Pablo at 11:30 a.m.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1984 Miata was taken from the 1100 block of Ivy Court between 6 and 7 a.m.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1984 SL was taken from the 2000 block of Key Boulevard between 6:30 and 7:15 p.m.

■ **ROBBERY** — Hollywood Boulevard was robbed at 10:16 p.m. The thief threw the cashier to the ground, held a weapon to her side, and fled south on Eastshore Boulevard taking the money.

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Preschoolers cope with loss of 'Teacher Leon'

THE TODDLERS at Franklin Preschool in Berkeley are in mourning. Last week, their beloved "Teacher Leon" (real name: Leon Bradford) died unexpectedly at age 65 from complications of diabetes. Characteristically, he'd never told anyone he was ill.

The news was broken to them by his fellow teacher, Sandra Farmer, who shared a classroom with him for the last two years.

She sat them around her in a circle on the floor — just as he used to do when he was reading or singing to them — and said, "Something sad has happened. Teacher Leon has died."

Then she read them a short story, "Nana Upstairs, Nana Downstairs," about a little boy who has to deal with the death of his grandmother. After she finished, she said, "Just like the boy in the story will always remember his grandma in his heart, we will all remember Teacher Leon in our hearts."

And she invited the kids to talk about him. One by one, they shared their favorite memories. How he always rode his bike to school, rain or shine. How he sang silly songs to them, accompanying himself on the guitar. How he helped them with their crafts projects. How he let them help him bake sugar cookies and gingersnaps (and then afterward).

"Once, he even let me stir the batter!" one little boy said proudly.

Every time a child in the class had a birthday, Teacher Leon would pull out his big, 2-foot-2-inch drum and announce, "All right! It's time to play!"

"That was the kids' favorite," says Farmer. "They looked forward to those parties every week."

Leon Bradford was a huge, 6-foot-1 man with a deep bass voice that commanded instant respect.

"He was a quiet man who never raised his voice to them," says his boss, John Santoro, Director of Early Childhood Development. "All he had to say was, 'OK, let's line up,' and they'd snap to it."

His nickname among his fellow teachers was "The Gentle Giant" because his huge size was matched by his gentle soul and infinite patience with chil-



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

dren.

"Often, I'd poke my head in the classroom and see him in his favorite chair, reading to 20 or 25 kids sitting on the floor around him, and every one would be hanging on every word," says Farmer. "They were just enchanted by him."

Over the years, Bradford received offers from private schools at much higher pay than he was making, but he turned them all down. He always said, "I'm happy where I am."

Bradford's sister, Alberta Davis, flew here from New York over the weekend to take care of the funeral arrangements. On Monday, she visited his classroom at Franklin.

She sat in his favorite chair, and the kids sat around her in a circle and told her how much they loved him.

"It was the best therapy I could have," she says.

Leon Bradford taught preschool in Berkeley for 37 years. He is survived by his sister, nephew, mother, and more than 5,000 children — the oldest of whom are now in their early 40s.

And every single one had the experience of a strong but gentle man who truly loved and cared for them at a very impressionable stage in their life. Who can calculate the ripple effects this had — not only on them, but on everyone they met?

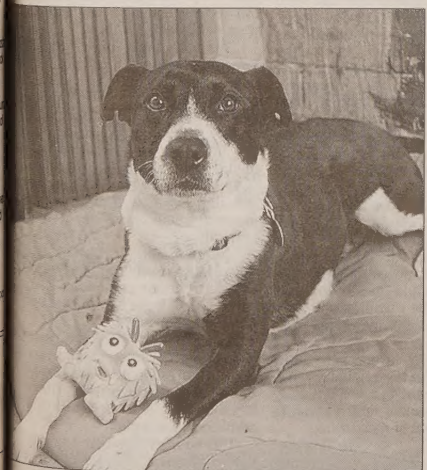
He was a humble man who chose a humble calling. I think it was partly because he knew how much good he was doing.

But there was another reason. As Oscar Hammerstein II wrote, "It's a very ancient saying/But a true and honest thought/That if you become a teacher/By your pupils you'll be taught."

And they taught him to see the world through their eyes — as a place where every day is filled with new discoveries and every heart is filled with love.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or e-mail msnapp@cctimes.com.

OF THE WEEK



BERKELEY EAST BAY HUMANE SOCIETY

NA is what the workers at the Berkeley East Bay Humane Society call a "Berkeley special" (in other words, a mutt). They also call her "a dog over a dream in a cute little package." She likes snuggling on the couch as much as romping, and would be good for a first-time dog owner. She may be available for adoption at the Humane Society.

BERKELEY — The following animals may be available for adoption at the Berkeley East Bay Humane Society.

Dogs: Female herding breed mix, 3 years; female hound mix, 2 years; female Labrador retriever, 2 years; female German Shepherd mix, 2 years; male Labrador-Labrador retriever mix, 2 years; male terrier mix, 1 year; male German shepherd mix, 9 months; female Australian Shepherd mix, 5 months; female German pinscher-German Shepherd mix, 5 months.

Cats: Female black and white, 2 years; male dilute calico, 7 years; male black, 5 years; male tabby, 5 years; male black (cats), 4 years; female dilute tortoiseshell, 4 years; female calico, 4 years; male brown tabby, 2 years.

Rabbits: Female English Spot mix and white, 3 years; female chinchilla mix brown agouti, 2 years; female Dutch mix tan and

white, 1 year.

Adoption fee: cats \$100; dogs \$125 — including spaying neutering and age-appropriate shots. There is an overnight hold period. The Berkeley East Bay Humane Society is located at 2700 Ninth St., Berkeley. Its hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Information: www.berkeleyhumane.org or call 510-845-7735.

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Girl Scouts built friendships for life

By Mary Reiley
STAFF WRITER

If Girl Scouts of America offers a badge for building long-lasting friendships, 14 women who came through the ranks, a few starting in 1947, need to sharpen their needles to sew one on their uniforms.

For the 48th time since they graduated from high school, the women held a reunion Feb. 20 to reminisce, share photos and just bask in their mutual experiences as members of Girl Scout Troop 69 in El Cerrito.

For Joan Carlson, now of San Diego, her late mother, former troop leader Irene Jarvis, was a big reason the girls kept coming back each year.

"I credit my mother for holding us together," Carlson said in a phone call.

Jarvis took over as leader in 1950 when the girls were in fifth grade, organized the first reunion after they graduated from high school in 1958, and attended them until her death in 1999.

Sharon May of Richmond, who co-hosted this year's lunch along with Phyllis Weber of Dunnigan, said Jarvis was a good example of what a scout leader should be.

"She gave us opportunities to grow up," May said by

phone Wednesday. "She taught us social and occupational skills, and how to organize and work in groups. She was superb at it."

The girls went camping every summer, took American Red Cross baby sitting and home nursing courses, organized dances with local Boy Scout troops, learned about party and menu planning and volunteered in the community.

After the girls graduated from high school, Jarvis became a "leader of leaders," helping other adults within the Girl Scouts of San Francisco Bay Area Council hone their leadership skills. The council honored Jarvis at a dinner in 1997, and her "girls" marched down the aisle together at the celebration.

Until just a few years before her death, the women sent Jarvis information for an annual Christmas letter, updating the group on what they and their families had been doing since the previous luncheon. Jarvis passed the publishing duties to May in 1996, and the letter continues to keep the women tuned in to one another. It helps them prepare for the upcoming reunions, usually held in January or February.

For this year's gathering,



JOANNA BHANDASTAFF

JUDY CUMMINGS, left, chuckles as Julie Mangney and Donna Hull share digital camera photos taken during the 48th annual reunion of Girl Scout Troop 69 in El Cerrito. Some of the women have been friends since becoming Brownies in second grade.

Carlson said, she and four others met at the Sacramento Airport so they could drive as a group to Richmond.

"We laughed all the way," she said. "There's always laughter whenever we're together."

Over the years, the women have been supportive through romances, breakups, marriages, divorces, raising children, the loss of their parents and whatever else came along.

"We know we can count on each other," said Donna Hull of

Concord, part of the group since she was a Brownie in 1947.

As with several of the women, Hull was a Brownie and Girl Scout troop leader when her daughters were younger.

With an average attendance of about 12 of the 14 girls who grew up through scouting, the reunions are all about friendship and good times.

"We have respect for each other," May said, "and we have a lot of fun."

Rescue a greyhound, make a companion for life

GREYHOUNDS, SAYS Barbara Judson, are couch potatoes, but they happily get up for a walk. They are gentle, mellow creatures and love to be petted.

Judson is one of many people devoted to the breed who have become greyhound rescuers. When I visited her she had three of the beautiful animals.

Alas, these noble dogs, once the companions of kings, prized throughout history for their intelligence, speed and beauty, became enslaved by the multimillion-dollar greyhound racing industry. And now they are running for their lives.

Says the Greyhound: Friends For Life brochure: "Of the more than 30,000 puppies born into the industry every year, few will generate enough money to stay alive to the mandatory 'retirement' age of 5 years. This harsh, unforgiving system of breeding for profit produces an animal surplus of tens of thousands every year."

Judson's love of the animals can be seen as soon as you reach her home, from the license on the back of her car, to the plaque by the door, to the picture of Annie, her first greyhound, on the living room wall. She pats the dogs lovingly; several of them lounge near her on the sofa, or on the rug at her feet. She says she was introduced to the dogs in the 1980s when her then husband brought a whippet into their home.

"That was my first experience with sight hounds — so called because they hunt with their eyes rather than with their noses," she says. "They have very acute sight."

When the whippet died, she contacted the whippet rescue group. But few whippets come



CLARA-RAE JENSEN
Community Folk

HOW TO HELP

For details on greyhound rescue, call 800-G-HOUNDS or visit the Friends Web site at www.greyhoundfriendsforlife.org. Barbara Judson is the Alameda County person to call, at 510-525-3844.

in, she was told. She wanted a rescued dog, since she had seen the Friends For Life rescuers at a meet and greet in front of the Solano Pet Store.

She did research on greyhounds, and "the more I read, the more I felt that the greyhound was the dog to have."

So she drove to Gilroy, where the greyhound rescuers were centered, and brought home Annie. She acquired a second dog to be a companion to Annie, and when Annie died of leukemia, she found another rescued pet.

Then she went to Salt Lake City on a rescue mission, and brought home 8 dogs that were being abandoned by a race track. Among these was the white one, now her third dog. Judson speaks of the adoption procedure for the dogs. Do the people have cats, or other breeds of dogs? Children? They test the dogs to see if they would be safe with cats and/or children. Basically, they must show almost no interest in cats to be put into a home with one. When Judson, who is a medical writer, quit her job and became a con-

sultant, she found more time to work in rescue. Another woman in Albany, Ginny Polk, is the coordinator for the area. She says the two main sources for greyhounds are in Colorado and in Mexico. She works with groups in Southern California who actually go into a track and pull them out before they are killed. Barbara Judson is a very inter-

esting person. I wish I had more space to write about her.

The booklet she gave me goes even further than that: "They are friendly, affectionate, gentle, quiet, sweet, loyal, clean, loving, sensitive, trusting and good-natured. Their docile nature makes for an easy transition to becoming a companion dog, regardless of the dog's age."

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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIAL

Preparedness is Red Cross message

THE AMERICAN Red Cross and the city of Berkeley sponsored a blood drive this week. If you were in the vicinity of 2180 Milvia and visited the Blood Mobile to make donation, you helped meet the steep need in the nation for blood — and you were also in the minority.

According to the Red Cross, some 38,000 pints of blood are needed every day in the United States. If you like to break it down into averages by time, the organization can do it for you that way, too: that's someone needing blood every two seconds.

Why would you have been in the minority? Although 60 percent of the population is eligible to donate blood, only 5 percent do so, the Red Cross says. In California, that number is even lower: 2 percent to 3 percent.

We don't like to think about blood, or needing blood, but it's one of those things to do for the sake of community — with the hope that, should it be you or one of your loved ones be one of those who need it in an emergency, supplies will be there.

We're thinking about blood at the moment because March is Red Cross Month. It's a long-standing tradition, declared in 1943 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

"I summon the men, women and young people of our country, in every city and town and village, in every county and state throughout the land, to enlist in the army of mercy mobilized under the banner of the Red Cross and to contribute generously to the Red Cross War Fund," Roosevelt said at the time. Within six weeks the effort brought in more than \$125 million in donations.

Most of us in this country are lucky enough to think of the Red Cross Month only when we donate blood. But when disaster strikes, the Red Cross is there to help in many ways.

One of those ways it helps all year long is through education. And this year the theme emphasized during Red Cross Month is preparedness.

Just as we prefer not to think of a situation in which we might need blood, most of us would rather not have to think about the need to have an emergency plan, emergency supplies, basic first-aid and CPR training.

Take time this month to think about these Red Cross steps that can help your family and community be safer:

- Make a disaster plan to cover your home, community and workplace — this is a great time to meet your neighbors and work together for a common goal.
- Put together a disaster supply kit with items you may need if you must stay in your home or workplace — or if you must evacuate on short notice.
- Get life-saving training. The Red Cross offers classes year-round in first aid, CPR, defibrillator use and much more.
- Volunteer. Support the Red Cross's work with time and/or money.
- Give blood regularly, by making it part of your schedule. The Red Cross needs to maintain a five- to seven-day supply of blood. To help meet that, more Americans need to become regular donors. To make an appointment, go to www.BeADonor.com.

We may shudder to think of disasters happening and needing supplies, training and plans. But they are just what can help us shudder a little less. Preparedness brings peace of mind — something to remember during Red Cross Month.

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

House of Representatives

Barbara Lee: (D-9th District: Albany, Berkeley, most of Oakland) 414 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202-225-2661. Fax: 202-225-9617; 1301 Clay St., Ste. 1000N, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-763-0370. Fax: 510-763-6538. E-mail: barbara.lee@mail.house.gov.

Ellen Tauscher: (D-10th District: El Cerrito, Kensington) 2121 N. California Blvd., Suite 555, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925-932-8899 or 1034 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-1880. E-mail through www.house.gov/tauscher

State Senate

Don Perata: (D-9th District: Albany, Berkeley) State Capitol, Room 4061, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916-445-6577. Fax: 916-327-1997; 1515 Clay St., No. 2202, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-286-1333. Fax: 510-286-3885. E-mail: senator.perata@sen.ca.gov

Tom Torlakson: (D-7th District: El Cerrito, Kensington) 2801 Concord Blvd., Concord CA 94519; 800-859-9900 or State Capitol, Room 2068, Sacramento CA 95814; 916-445-6083, e-mail: senator.torlakson@sen.ca.gov

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530. 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

County Supervisors

John Gioia: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530. 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-3429. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-coste.ca.us.

Keith Carson: (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarrson@co.alameda.ca.us.

EBMUD

David Richardson: Ward No. 4 (Albany, Berkeley, and Emeryville; part of Oakland; El Cerrito and Kensington. E-mail: Oakport@igc.org

East Bay Regional Parks

Jean Siri: Ward 1 (Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Kensington, part of Pinole, and San Pablo). E-mail: jsiri@ebparks.org

AC Transit

Joe Wallace: Ward 1 (West Contra Costa and Northern Alameda counties). E-mail: jwallace@actransit.org; phone 510-891-7143; fax 510-234-7689.

Steges Sanitary District

Phone 510-524-4668 or see online at www.stegesdst.ca.us.

Cities

El Cerrito: City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

School boards

West Contra Costa Unified School District: 510-620-2246

Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

MARCH IS RED CROSS MONTH THE MONTH DEDICATED TO BLOOD DONORSHIP

I CUT MY FINGER.



DID YOU KNOW THAT EVERY TWO SECONDS SOMEONE IN THE U.S. NEEDS BLOOD? THAT'S ABOUT 38,000 PINTS EVERY DAY.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

System failing

It's easy to criticize the governor for reneging on his promise not to cut the education budget. Actually per pupil spending is going up about 5 percent, which is more than inflation or the rate of teacher salary increases.

It's not money that is at the root of our problems, but bloated administrations dealing with real and imagined mandates that have nothing to do with what happens in the classroom.

The governor plans to reward outstanding teachers. What a concept, especially if he also gets rid of bad teachers. He plans to open the books so we can see where the money goes. Maybe then we can find out why so many of our teachers are not in the classroom.

The governor plans to bring recovery teams into failing schools. The districts certainly haven't been able to solve this problem. He would like to dismantle the Department of Education, and begin streamlining and centralizing many of the routine district operations.

Education may be the third rail of politics in California, but our system is failing and we need to go in a new direction. Maybe the governor will fail, too; maybe not.

Richard Firestone
El Cerrito

Design review board's position

On Feb. 18, The Journal reported on the declining support for a proposed Measure C BART parking garage proposed for El Cerrito Plaza.

The article showed an attractive artist's rendering of the creek daylighting and condominium component of the developer's proposal with a caption stating the El Cerrito design review board opposed it.

The position of the board at the Feb. 16 meeting was unanimous regarding the unfeasibility of the proposed garage in its current location due to its lack of direct access from a major vehicular avenue and lack of architectural detail.

However, the board's decision about the condominium/creek proposal was much more nuanced in its concerns. The board supported the Cerrito Creek daylighting and the need for high-density housing in close proximity to public transportation, but was primarily concerned about the physical orientation of the condominium building.

As presented, the building would obstruct the trajectory of Evelyn Avenue into the Plaza, requiring a dogleg around the building to proceed north, creating difficult pedestrian and vehicular movements in the already circuitous Plaza area.

Board member Geoffrey Nelson expressed the sentiments of the board that long-term objectives for the Plaza should favor simple, straightforward north/south street movements.

The board was asked to evaluate whether positive design features merited the project's consideration for height and density allowances under the city's incentives program. It was noted that the architects for the project have a track record of success with this kind of development. The Fruitvale transit-oriented development is one of their projects.

The board sympathized with the developer, citing the spatial constraints of the site. But the board felt the problems with the siting of the project are currently greater than a talented architect can fix with an attractive design, and the board could not recommend the use of incentives at this time.

It was noted that should the garage portion of the proposal ultimately fail to be realized, this could provide more elbow room on the site and the opportu-

nity for a better plan.

Steve Price
El Cerrito Design Review Board

Proud of Albany City Council

On behalf of the more than 400 community members who signed petitions asking the Albany City Council to exclude cell phone antennas from residential and school sites, I would like to thank the city staff members, elected officials and residents who spent hundreds of hours working on the city's new Wireless Communications Ordinance, which received the council's preliminary approval on Feb. 22 ("Stricter rules OK'd for cell antennas," Journal, Feb. 25).

This ordinance is designed to maintain Albany's charming residential character and give the city freedom to judiciously manage cell antenna siting. It represents the culmination of nearly six months' work and many hearings during which public comment was, without exception, overwhelmingly in favor of keeping cell sites out of neighborhoods and off of schools.

Consistent with this pattern, 11 residents spoke in support of the ordinance at the Feb. 22 public hearing, in contrast to two who spoke against. (Those two residents raised concerns that had been addressed exhaustively at previous meetings where it was made clear none of the ordinance's provisions will impair the ability of companies to continue to offer and improve cell coverage in our area.)

The numerous wireless company representatives who showed up to object to the ordinance at the hearing had been noticeably absent from previous proceedings. Their contribution to the process of drafting the ordinance was limited to one company repeatedly threatening litigation and opposing almost any form of regulation by the city.

We are proud our council stood up to big business and honored the wishes of Albany's residents and the majority recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission in approving this ordinance.

In an era when the trend is to allow industries to design the regulatory system that applies to them, it is heartening to see local government take a stand to protect the interests of its citizens.

Nan Wishner
Albany

Urban limit line

Evidently, communities against the urban limit line are not aware or concerned about our growing problems of energy use, oil supply, water, congestion and global warming. How we develop has a major impact on all these problems.

Unusual damaging events to weather are occurring that are attributable to increasing these problems by adding to

WRITE TO THE JOURNAL

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these conditions in the way we develop. We need to consider ways to minimize these problems in the way we live.

Low-density development increases energy and water use per capita, about doubles auto use, which depletes the oil supply and increases congestion, air pollution, global warming.

A responsible measure is needed to minimize or arrest these problems. A limit line will address and reduce these problems.

As a widely traveled, 32-year-old AC Transit board member, a professional engineer, serving on several transportation and transit planning committees, and an environmentalist, knowledgeable of various development and transit systems worldwide.

Globally, the United States stands in the amount of low-density development that not only contributes to the conditions described, but makes it very difficult to provide decent transit systems that could serve as an alternative to the car.

Roy Nakagawa
Berkeley

Bush's foolish plan

Regarding the Bush administration plan for private investments to global Security a much-needed financial aid, it's a bad gamble, at best.

This ambiguous plan is being kicked by a man with an appalling record when it comes to handling amounts of money — especially other people's money. It must run in the family: Remember his brother's involvement in the infamous savings loan scandal of the 1980s?

In the past, when Bush made a call, he never had to suffer much of a financial fallout. Somebody always bailed him out.

Unfortunately, if this bad call goes through, there will be nobody to bail the elderly poor and middle class out, as usual, get lost in the shuffle, greed and power.

As for the mindless cheerleader Rick Santorum's recent town-hall meeting, they presented a classic example of the Bush fan-club mentality. They really think they'll get rich quick off of administration's plan!

This country has more pressing problems than need fixing, but I guess not much in the way of profit to be made any interest by this administration and its avid followers.

Very foolish times we live in.
Alfred M. Chiswick
Richmond

Biggest scandal

Why is the press not pursuing the biggest scandal of the Bush administration: the Jeff Gannon aka James Gannon story?

The alleged male prostitute worked his way into the White House press corps with a sketchy journalism background, and no one seems to care how he got in.

I would think a background check to be done. So who was informed of his background? Did he get in the White House by sleeping with someone at the White House?

From what I understand, he was objective. So was the idea to plant a pagandist to make sure the administration could shape news and opinion in "1984" by George Orwell coming to life. With the stories out about Armstrong Williams and others in the media, I see we can expect to see less of the same in the future. Instead, we will have "Ministry of Truth." Sad.

Wayne
El Sobrante

How you serve people can depend on how you view them

Quote of the week:
"Most White people, in my experience, tend not to think of themselves in racial terms. They know that they are White, of course, but mostly that translates into being not Black, not Asian-American, and not Native American. Whiteness, in and of itself, has little meaning."

From "Portraits of White Racism" by David T. Wellman, 1993

I AM TAKING a class this semester called "Library Services to Hispanic Patrons." In our first class meeting, the professor made a point of talking about the word "Hispanic" where it comes from, whether it is an appropriate word to be using. Later, when I



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

looked it up in the latest "Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary," I found it comes from "Hispania," Iberian Peninsula, Spain, and it is defined as: "of, relating to, or being a person of Latin American descent living in the U.S.; esp. one of Cuban, Mexican, or Puerto Rican origin..."

While I was looking up words in the dictionary, I also looked up "Latino" and "Latina," which are the terms

preferred by my teacher and others. "Latino: 1. a native or inhabitant of Latin America 2. a person of Latin American origin living in the U.S." "Latina" has the same definition, but only as it applies to a woman or girl.

However, no matter which words are used to describe any of us, the real question for libraries is how to make sure we provide the services our community wants and needs. My class focuses on one group, but everything we are studying applies to any group of people, whether they are brought together by race, language, country of origin, gender, age, abilities, and any other way we have of categorizing people.

The challenge for any public library is to not only find out

what is needed but also to know whether the services and materials that are offered are appropriate. One enlightening article I read is called "See, Hear, and Speak No Evil (Examining Multicultural Mass Media)" by Clara M. Chu.

In her piece, Chu discusses the way in which library materials — whether they are books, Web sites, software, DVDs or videos — can be biased without intending to be. She gives several thought-provoking examples of this.

For instance, she talks about the idea of "invisibility" — where, by simply leaving out a group, we are giving out biased information. An example of this would be a video about pilots that only shows white men — implying that other groups,

such as women, don't qualify. This kind of bias is subtle but has a long reach — I grew up with this stereotype and I still struggle to think "female" when I hear the word "pilot."

She also makes one simple point about library signs: In some libraries, non-English materials are called "Foreign Languages" instead of "International Languages." With the first choice, there is an implication that if a language isn't English, it is in some way foreign or strange. I had a related experience with this concept years ago when I was in charge of a grant project to buy materials for people who are learning English.

Traditionally, these items have been labeled "ESL," which stands for English as a

Second Language. But of course, many people who are learning English already speak two or more languages — so English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) is more appropriate.

Learning to pay attention to subtle messages requires thinking in a different way. At a public library it is our job to try to do this by closely examining what we are buying and how we are presenting our offerings. When we do this well, we provide a welcoming and supportive atmosphere for everyone.

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@aclib.org or at the Albany Library, 510-526-3720, Ext. 20.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

The Albany Library's next Second Wednesdays drop-in poetry workshop will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday. It is led by Allison Seevak, an Albany poet and teacher who has taught writing to children and adults at schools and community arts centers throughout the Bay Area.

The Albany Library, a branch of the Alameda County Library, located at 1247 Marin Ave. For information on its services and programs, call 510-526-3720 ext.

Alice Wilson-Fried, author of *Menopause, Sisterhood, and Miracles: A Miraculous Journey Through 'The Change,'* will talk about her own personal solutions to the challenges of aging when she appears at the El Cerrito Library at 7 p.m. March 15.

Sally Lundgren, a naturalist

will appear at the library at 11 a.m. March 19. She will bring some examples of local wildlife that may include "Rabbits, Turtles and Wiggly Snakes" (the title of the program.) Children of all ages and their parents are welcome.

The library's "Pot O' Gold" reading club for children in first

through sixth grade runs through March 17. Children can read 10 books and earn prizes.

Readers Anonymous, the library's book club, meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Copies of the current selection are available at the check-out desk. Next up: "Oryx and Crake," by Margaret Atwood (Feb. 22).

The El Cerrito Library, a branch of the Contra Costa County Library, is located at 6510 Stockton Ave. For more information, call 510-526-7512.

Master magician Alex Gonzalez will appear at the Kensington Library at 6:30 p.m. March 15 for "an evening of amazement."

All ages are welcome. Free tickets are required and are available now. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library.

The Kensington Library, a branch of the Contra Costa County Library, is at 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington, CA 94707-1098. Phone: 510-524-3043.

— Compiled by Deborah Byrd

ALBANY SCHOOL NOTES

Albany High School

The 18th annual Health Careers Conference for Students of Color will be held on Sat., March 12, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on the Berkeley campus. Free, lunch provided, registration deadline March 5. Ms. Sumberg has details.

The Albany Music Fund meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Library. The

agenda includes plans for the Superintendent's Concert, Disneyland trip, Santa Cruz Jazz Festival, Monterey Jazz Festival, Mike McKay, 510-525-2147 or mcfammp@sbcglobal.net.

Albany Middle School

March 7: Principal's Coffee, Room 116, 8-8:45 a.m.
March 9: Parent Education Night — Ivy

Chen, 7:30 p.m., library

March 10: Superintendent's Concert, 7 p.m., gym

Marin Elementary School

March 11: Garden Day, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
March 16: PTA meeting, 8:30-10 a.m.
April 14: PTA meeting, 6:30-8 p.m.

Ocean View Elementary

Access the e-tree with an e-mail to OceanView-subscribe@yahoo.com.

AUSD

March 15: School Board meeting, Cornell School, 7:30 p.m.

EL CERRITO SCHOOL NOTES

El Cerrito High School

Just in time for spring is El Cerrito High logo wear, including pajama bottoms and boxer shorts. Look for the booth in the pit during lunch. Logo wear is sponsored by Grad Night 2005.

El Cerrito High School PTSA is looking for nominations for board positions for next year. The following positions are needed: president, executive vice president, recording secretary, treasurer, financial secretary, auditor, historian. For more information contact Valerie Bryant

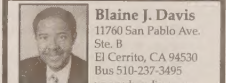
(vjb1956@yahoo.com) or anyone on the current board. Elections are in April. The positions of corresponding secretary and parliamentarian are appointed by the president, but if you know of someone who would be great at these positions, please contact Valerie or Linda Takimoto. Any PTSA member (student, teacher, or parent/guardian) may serve on the board.

The El Cerrito Community Flea Market to be held on March 19 at the community center will have many vendors selling their wares. Any ECHS groups that will have a space at this sale might consider selling some of the items found during the Archiving Project that won't be used in the Hall of History but could help to raise funds for the project. For more information call Joann Steck-Bayat at 510-524-9464.

Harding Elementary

March 9, 9-10:30 a.m., Harding Park Clubhouse. Kindergarten information session. Meet the principal, teachers, parents, and students. Enjoy coffee

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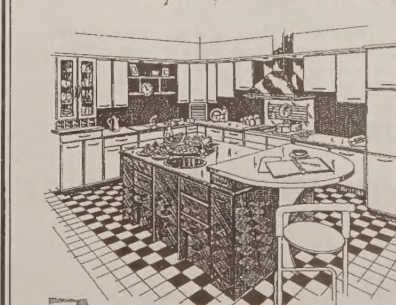
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Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis. Mail submissions to Pam Middings, 1516 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501; e-mail to pmiddings@octimes.com or fax them to 510-748-1680. Call 510-748-1683 if you have questions.

Children

■ **Los Amiguitos de La Pena**, the Saturday morning La Pena Children's Program, 3105 Shattuck Ave., presents: **Derique the High Tech Clown** performs **March 5**. — **Mary Ellen Hill** tells stories **March 12**. — **Arlenna Guthrie & Lydia Mills** performs Spanish game songs **March 19**. — Shows start at 10:30 a.m.; cost: \$4 adults, \$3 children; unless otherwise noted. 510-849-2568 or go to www.lapena.org.

■ **Habitat Children's Museum** presents **Derique the Clown** performing a hilarious "one clown" show that touches the funny bone in all at 3 p.m. on **March 5** at 2065 Kittredge St. Show features physical comedy, circus acts, and hambone body strumming. — **Shamrock Celtic Band** performs Celtic music 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. **March 19**. Art activities and a hunt for hidden pots of gold will take place in the museum all day long. Admission: \$6 child, \$5 adult. 510-647-1111 or go to www.habitat.org.

■ **Albany Berkeley Girls Softball League** is gearing up for spring season (**March 5-June 4**). All East Bay girls in grades 1-8 welcome; no prior experience needed in grades 1-5. League is a volunteer, parent-run organization and is all about skill building, fun and friendship. Registration or details: 510-869-4277 or www.abgsl.org.

■ **Julia Morgan Center for the Arts** presents **Family Film Sunday Series** "The Wizard of Oz" at 11 a.m. **March 13** at 2640 College Ave. Tickets: \$5 at door.

■ **Children's Fairyland** presents puppet show "Why Mosquitoes Buzz in our Ears" at 11 a.m., 2 p.m. & 4 p.m. through **April 7** (during days park is open) at 699 Bellevue Ave. Inspired by African folklore, show features a long cast of animal characters. Free with admission. www.fairyland.org or 510-452-2259.

■ **Kathryn Roszak's** popular **Children's Dance Program at Ashkenaz** starts at 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays through **April 27** at 1317 San Pablo Ave. Creative Movement class for 3- to 5-year olds is at 3:30-4:15 p.m.; Beginning Ballet for six-to-eight year olds is at 4:30-5:30 p.m. Ms. Roszak, a Berkeley native, danced with San Francisco Opera Ballet and specializes in teaching dance, creativity and fun to kids. 510-233-5550.

■ **Target Corporation** presents a **Play Date** at 12:5 p.m. on **May 1** for parents to enjoy a discounted matinee at **Berkeley Repertory's** *Roda* Theatre, 2015 Addison St., while their kids enjoy five hours of supervised activities at Berkeley YMCA, 2001 Allston Way. Event includes 2 p.m. matinee of "Peoples Temple". Fee: \$20 per child to YMCA, and a discounted ticket rate to Berkeley Rep of \$25. Less than cost of a babysitter, plus 45 percent off regular ticket price. 510-847-2848 or go to www.berkeleyrep.org.

■ **Lawrence Hall of Science** presents **Exploratorium** sampler exhibit shows through **May 1**. Many favorite hands-on exhibits. — Admission \$4.50-\$8.50. www.lawrencehallscience.com or 510-642-5132.

Community

■ **Albany YMCA's Family Literacy Night** with Paul Giganti is 6:30 p.m. **March 4** at Solano Center Kids' Club, 1216 Solano Ave., Albany. Optional

pasta dinner available 5:30-6:15 p.m. for \$5. RSVP at 510-525-1130 or email abutter@baymea.org.

■ **Phoebe Sorgen** tells of **World Social Forum** in Porto Alegre, Brazil, and Laura Santana brings news from the **Women and Water Conference** in India at 10 a.m. **March 5** at Berkeley-East Bay Gray Panthers, 1403 Addison St. 510-548-9696.

■ **Hopalong Animal Rescue** presents these pet adoption events: Cats at 12-3 p.m. **March 5, 12, 19, 26** at Your Basic Bird, 2940 College Ave. — Dogs at 12-3 p.m. **March 12** at Pet Food Express, 1101 University Ave. Details: go to www.hopalong.org or call 510-267-1915.

■ **Berkeley High School's** 8th annual **Celebrity Walter Lunch** 11 a.m. **March 15** at Hs. Lordship's Restaurant, 199 Seawall Drive. Fundraiser benefits athletic department. Many local sports notables attending, silent auction. Tickets: \$60; go to www.berkeleyathleticfund.org by **March 5**. 510-526-8885.

■ **City of Berkeley Creeks Task Force** meets at 7-9:30 p.m. at North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave. on: **March 7, March 14, March 21, March 28, and April 4**. www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/commissions/for/eeek/.

■ **Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI)** upcoming free special events: "Best Mountain Bike Rides in the Bay Area" is 7 p.m. **March 8**. Slide presentation by mountain bike racer and triathlete Lorene Jackson introduces rides she features in her new guidebook, "Mountain Biking the San Francisco Bay Area." — "A Year On the Road: Cycling Through Siberia, Mongolia and China" is 7 p.m. **March 15**. Cyclists Lori Lewis and Ilya Pratt took a year to cycle more than 8,000 kilometers through parts of Europe, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand. Slide presentation will show highlights of their adventures bicycling through Siberia, Mongolia and China. — "Climbing Mt. Shasta" is 7 p.m. **March 22**. Tim Keating, Director of Sierra Wilderness Seminars, gives a slide presentation on climbing and hiking this 14,162-foot Northern California peak. — "Sacred Mountains: A Pilgrimage in Yosemite and Tibet" is 7 p.m. **March 29**. Chris Bessonette and Joanne Cooke present slides from their quest to visit sacred mountains in Yosemite National Park and Tibet, to explore the allure of these high peaks from a spiritual perspective. 1338 San Pablo Ave. 510-527-4140.

■ **North Berkeley Senior Center**, 1901 Hearst Ave., presents: **Classical Piano** with Steve Armstrong 1:15 p.m. **March 8**. — Dr. McGillis discusses fungus, molds, mildews, spores, allergies, asthma, skin, and nail problems 10:30 a.m. **March 14**. — **City of Berkeley Health Department** offers free fitness tests for seniors 1:30-3:30 p.m. **March 15**. — **Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group** meeting 1:30 p.m. **March 16**. — **Stagebridge** presents St. Patrick's Day Fun Music and Sing-A-Long 1:15 p.m. **March 17**. — **Berkeley Parkinson's Support Group** meeting 10 a.m. **March 21**. — **Toastmasters Club** Members present various interesting speeches 1:15 p.m. **March 22**. — **California Telephone Access Program** demonstrates new phones and devices available for no charge 1 p.m. **March 23**. — All events are free. 510-981-5190 or go to <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/seniors/NBSC/nbsc.htm>.

■ **Oakland Library's** Rockridge Branch presents "Personal Tools with Quick Results" to Put More Fun into your Life" talk with Kate Schrup, Master in Public Health, Bachelor of Arts, Sociology, Certified Hypnotherapist and Reiki Master at 6:45-7:45 p.m. **March 8** at 5366 College Ave. Ms. Schrup demonstrates simple "silver bullet" techniques for releasing your "stuff". Free. 510-597-5017.

■ **Information Night for Berkeley High School Class of 2009** (current eighth-graders) is 7-9 p.m. **March 9** at Community Theater and "C" Building, 1900 Allston Way. In a round-robin format, current eighth-grade students and their families can hear presentations on academic departments and ninth grade curriculum, athletics, small schools and programs, English Language Learners, activities, clubs, etc. Speakers include students, teachers, administrators, department heads and others in the BHS community.

■ **13th annual Berkeley Youth Arts Festival** is 5-7 p.m. **March 9** at Berkeley Art Center, Live Oak Park, 1275 Walnut St. Exhibition runs **March 9-April 2**. Celebrates creative works of Berkeley Unified School District students. 510-644-6893 or go to www.berkeleyartcenter.org.

■ **National Alliance for the Mentally III**, East Bay Chapter's next monthly family support group is 7-8:45 p.m. **March 9** at Albany United Methodist Church, 980 Stannage Ave., Albany. — Next Support Group Meeting for Families of Children with Mental Illness is 7-8:45 p.m. **March 15** at same location. 510-524-1250.

■ **East Bay Genealogical Society** holds a work session at 10 a.m. **March 9** at Doe Library, UC Berkeley campus. Members, guests meet at library's north entrance. 510-635-6692.

■ **City of El Cerrito's** Economic Development Board presents its 1st annual **El Cerrito Business Reception** 5:30-8 p.m. **March 11** at El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mosser Lane. Free food & drink, networking opportunities, meet the mayor and other officials, raffle, and more. RSVP Betsy 510-215-4322 or email bmorris@ci.elcerrito.ca.us.

■ **Professionals from Andersen Windows, Tyvek Weatherization Systems** hold a **Window Installation Clinic** 10 a.m.-12 p.m. **March 12** at Ashby Lumber Door and Window Showroom, 840 Ashby Ave. Free. Registration required; call 510-843-3406.

■ **Alice Wilson-Fried**, author of "Menopause, Sisterhood, and Tenants: A Miraculous Journey Through 'The Change,'" will talk about the challenges of aging and how she gained control of her life from the inside out at 7 p.m. **March 15** at El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito. Free. 510-526-7512.

■ **Member of Contra Costa County Grand Jury** speaks at monthly lunch



BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL performers will be at the second annual **Dance IS Festival** this weekend at the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Dance IS consists of performances, bringing together professional companies, college and youth programs with a section of styles and creative investigations happening in the Bay Area dance community. This is also a benefit to support future dance presentation at the theater. Performances are **March 4** at 8 p.m. and **March 6** at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 adult, \$10 children and students. Details: 510-1300 or www.juliamorgan.org

meeting of **Sons in Retirement** Branch 64 at 11 a.m. **March 15** at Moose Lodge #550, 13233 San Pablo Ave., San Pablo. Lunch \$10. Reservations: call Dean 510-233-6663 or email deanfin1@sbcglobal.net.

■ **Ecology Center** presents National Nutrition Month events at Berkeley Farmers' Market, Derby Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Way: Cooking demonstrations with "Eat In Season" theme at 3:30 & 4:30 p.m. **March 15, 29**. — **Berkeley Community Gardening Collaborative** hosts a free compost giveaway 10 a.m.-3 p.m. **March 19**. 510-548-3333 or go to www.ecologycenter.org.

■ **Arts & Crafts Cooperative Inc.** presents its **March Seconds Sale** 11 a.m.-6 p.m. **March 18-20** at 1652 Shattuck Ave. Save up to 70 percent on ceramics, jewelry, glass, etc. 510-843-2527 or www.acgallery.com.

■ **Vista Community College** fundraiser "A Conversation with Danny Glover" is 7:30 p.m. **March 19** at Berkeley Repertory Theater. Felix Justice also featured. Tickets: \$50 or \$100 for performance plus after theater gala with Glover. Tickets: www.vista.tx.com, go to Vista's cashier's office, 2020 Milvia St., or call 510-981-2851 or after 5 p.m. 510-981-2852.

■ **Berkeley Historical Society Photo Essay Competition** ends 4 p.m. **March 19**. Submit entries at Berkeley History Center, 1931 Center St. Winners will be announced on April 1 and

an awards ceremony will be held there at the B.H.S. Annual Meeting at 3-5 p.m. on April 10. 510-848-0181 or go to www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/history/.

■ **Berkeley Boosters Police Activities League's** "Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Social" is 6 p.m. **March 24** at Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave. Hear the story of Ben & Jerry's. Event also features a panel discussion with Cliff Bar, Wells Fargo, DoubleTree Hotel and Skates on the Bay. Event is a fundraiser for Berkeley Boosters PAL, to provide services to at-risk Berkeley youth. Tickets: \$100; call 925-798-1300. Details: go to www.juliamorgan.org.

Exhibitions

■ **ASUC Art Studio** presents annual Pushpin Show through **March 12** at Lower Sproul Plaza, U.C. Berkeley Campus. 3065 or go to www.asuc.org.

■ **Giorgi Gallery** presents Haiga Paintings by Kazuo and Photos of Japan by Kenji exhibition running through **March 12** at 2911 Claremont Ave. \$1000 go to www.giorgigallery.com.

■ **California College of the Arts** for Art and Public Life presentation "Mapping the Landscape" is 6 p.m. **March 12** at 2911 Claremont Ave. \$1000 go to www.giorgigallery.com.

See CALENDAR, p. A6

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Scholars Association.

The association wants to hear from anyone who witnessed the crash, said president Bo Dai. Wang's friends said Tuesday they do not know where he was going or where he came from before the crash.

"We'd like to know the facts in this issue and for the police department to resolve this issue as soon as possible," Dai said.

Lieberman said prosecutors and the California Highway Patrol are investigating the crash, and the police department is conducting its own internal investigation to determine whether the involved officer followed policy.

She reiterated Tuesday that the officer was not actively pursuing Jones at the time of the crash.

"I'm feeling really sad right now. I've been at Jie Wang's bedside since I came here, day and night ... he was completely innocent," Zhang said through an interpreter. "At this point I want to find the witness to what happened and who is responsible for this."

Reach Karl Fischer at 510-262-2728 or kfischer@cctimes.com.

Calendar

FROM PAGE A6

■ **Photolab Gallery** presents "Bark and Beyond — Photography by Helene Sobol" through **March 19** at 2235 Fifth St. Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. www.photolab-gallery.com or 510-644-1400.

Rotary

FROM PAGE A1

On Feb. 26, Stong was among the Rotary and El Cerrito High School Interact Club members dedicating a Rotary monument sign and about \$10,000 in improvements at Cerrito Vista Park.

Over several weeks, Rotary members repainted and replaced the baseball diamond backdrop, the dugouts, bleachers and concession building. They built a Rotary sign listing the club's international and local projects and all of the club's presidents since it began in 1905.

Rotary members Marvin Collins, Jim Spain, Larry Sanchez and the Sherwin Williams Paint Company were integral to the pro-

■ **Judah L. Magnes Museum**, 2911 Russell St., presents: "Surviving Suprematism: Lazar Khidekel" exhibition through **March 20** at Reutlinger Gallery. Artist was a pioneer in avant-garde movement in Russia called Suprematism. — "The People and the Book: Paintings and Rare Books from the Museum's Collection" through **July 3** in Second Floor Gallery. — Suggested admission: \$6 adults, \$4 students/seniors. www.magnes.org or call 510-549-8950.

■ **La Pena Cultural Center**, 3105 Shattuck Ave., presents Lewis Suzuki's watercolors in lobby through **April 30**. Public reception 6-7 p.m. **March 26**. — "Siempre La Lucha" shows in Cafe. — Group show celebrating International Women's Month is in Theater. 510-849-2568 or go to www.lapena.org.

■ **El Cerrito Art Association** presents "Nature Fantasy Digital Photocollages"

by Lisa Yount through **March** at El Cerrito Public Library, 6510 Stockton St.

■ **UC Berkeley Art Museum/Pacific Film Archive** presents: "Blind at the Museum" through **July 24**; "Matrix 214: Mark Mander" through **April 10**; "Drawn by the Brush: Oil Sketches by Peter Paul Rubens" through **May 15** at 2625 Durant Ave #2250. www.bampfa.berkeley.edu or call 510-842-0808.

ject, Stong said.

Rotary has more than 31,000 clubs in 166 countries and more than 1.2 million members.

The local club's park project celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Rotary, which began in Chicago in 1905.

On top of the park project, for three weeks in February and March, El Cerrito, Richmond and San Pablo Rotary members hosted a delegation of Russian dentists learning American dental techniques and business management.

The dentist-exchange program is sponsored by the San Francisco-based Center for Citizens Initiative that encourages tolerance and friendship among the two countries while improving Russian business.

"They have good dentists (in

Russia) but to find a manager is very hard," said Matvei Finkel, a facilitator and translator for the program. "One reason to come here is to learn how to manage clinics."

Hosts provide boarding, food and transportation for the dentists, who tour local dentist offices and colleges.

"It's very enlightening," said El Cerrito Rotary member Jack Freethy. "They're very progressive, most of them can understand English. The education level over there is very high."

The dentists, said Stong, are scheduled to leave Sunday, following a farewell dinner tonight and a final day of sightseeing on Saturday.

"They're all like the cream of the crop of Russia," Stong said.

"These are young directors in charge of multiple staff and employees. They will go back and maybe start Rotary clubs where they're from because of what they've learned from us."

He added: "Rotary breaks beyond religion and politics and just tries to help people."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or alopez1@cctimes.com.

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Poll

FROM PAGE A1

son asked the council to lobby the county to allocate more money for city paramedic services.

Sangster said a new contract under negotiation between the county and ambulance provider American Medical Response could result in less county money for the city for paramedic training and medical equipment for paramedics who work at the city's fire stations.

The county could make up the difference by allocating more county tax money to the city or have the ambulance company bill private insurance companies for their services.

"We're asking to make sure the county follows through on what the tentative deal is," said Johnson, following the meeting. "And that is maximum reimbursement for the city and co-billing."

The new contract between the county and AMR will actually increase the amount of tax money available to the city, though it may

not cover costs if the city increases the number of paramedics at its fire stations, said Art Lathrop, the county's emergency health services director.

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Police detain robbery spree suspects

■ Authorities say the pair nabbed near reputed drug house may be responsible for a half-dozen holdups

By Karl Fischer
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Two men arrested last week near a reputed drug house held up six or more local businesses since January, police said Friday, accounting for more than one-third of the commercial robberies reported this year in the city.

Detectives from Richmond and San Pablo say at least one of the suspects, 42-year-old Kelvin Ross, also likely robbed half a dozen more gas stations and fast food restaurants in their cities, many on San Pablo Av-

enue. "They picked the avenue because it's easy to get on and off the freeway, to get away," said El Cerrito police Detective Ken Zink. "They probably went on a bender and needed cash. All they took was cash."

El Cerrito police Officer Scott Barr noticed a blue Mazda van about midnight on Feb. 25 that was similar to one witnesses saw driving away after a robbery at the Walgreens at 11565 San Pablo Ave. the night before.

The van was parked in front of what police say is a reputed crack house. Barr parked nearby and watched the van until two men emerged from the house, got in and started driving, Zink said. Police pulled them over near the corner of Junction and Morris avenues and detained

Ross and 38-year-old Marlin Watson, both Richmond residents.

Police arrested both on suspicion of robbery and, while interviewing them, developed evidence linking them to the robberies, Zink said.

Ross was the gunman who held up cashiers at Walgreens, Radio Shack, a Taco Bell restaurant twice on consecutive Sundays and a Carrows restaurant, all on San Pablo Avenue and all since Jan. 19, Zink said.

El Cerrito detectives sought Friday to connect Ross to similar robberies this month at a shoe store and a gas station. Police said Watson drove the getaway car for the Walgreens robbery and may be involved in others.

San Pablo police are investi-

gating Ross in connection with the recent robbery of an El Pollo Loco on San Pablo Avenue, said detective John Benone, and Richmond police said Ross is their suspect in several recent robberies of similar businesses.

Police did not find weapons or drugs during the arrest, Zink said, and found no evidence linking either man to the Jan. 9 killing of gas station clerk Khalid Maqsood, who was shot dead during a robbery at the Super Stop gas station on San Pablo Avenue.

Ross and Watson were booked into County Jail in Martinez on Friday. Police ask anyone with information about them or the robberies to call Zink at 510-215-4422.



CARUSO AFFILIATES

Caruso

FROM PAGE A1

Photos of the Southern California developments show sparkling buildings, outdoor water fountains and stores such as Barnes & Noble and Abercrombie & Fitch.

"When you think of a mall you think of boxy indoor things," said Middlebrook. "That's not what we do."

He said that while the waterfront is now just concrete and broken pavement, Caruso wants to improve it to provide waterfront access, open space and a connection of the Bay Trail between Gilman Street in Berkeley and Buchanan Street in Albany.

The goal is to create a "real environment where people come down and enjoy the waterfront," he said. "The waterfront would hopefully become an inviting place for people in the entire area."

Resident Howard McNenny, coordinator for the Albany Waterfront Coalition, said members of his group met with CEO Caruso and were pleased with his reception to their ideas.

"If we play our cards right, the retail component can be extremely exciting and can appeal to a great segment of the population and can be quite wonderful," McNenny said. "And I don't think a lot of developers in the country can pull it off successfully. But I've seen some of Caruso's work in Southern California and I think Caruso is extremely capable."

Hundreds of people attended workshops in 2003 to discuss waterfront development. That followed Magna's application in 2002 for luxury hotels, a conference or entertainment center, restaurants, and specialty shops.

That development, said Middlebrook, was "too big, too boxy, with too little community input. To do anything out there, it has to be something the community supports and feels good about."

It was reported last year that Magna was pursuing a 600,000-to-

800,000-square-foot development with retail, entertainment, restaurants and housing. Middlebrook said it's still too early to say what kind of development will be proposed.

The only sure thing is that the racetrack is there to stay, though not everyone is sure.

With gaming revenue and Magna eyeing a track in the Solano County area, said City Clerk Robert Lieber, the track is going to be definitely doesn't look like it's going to go away.

Lieber said he supports Club/Eastshore Park to place limited development on the freeway.

"I just don't think it's a kind of development that has in mind that would be patible with my vision of a place who elected me," he said.

"If the track is there, it's a big development, there's a park there for a park."

In addition, he said, the city and the East Bay Regional Park district already have an agreement that Magna up land for the trail.

Measure CC, a regional measure approved last year, will raise seed money for the year for engineering.

Trail connection from Street to Buchanan Street in the Albany waterfront, Tong, a planning manager at East Bay Regional Park,

"We will need to use additional funds for actual construction," said Tong.

The developer said at waterfront improvements go beyond a Bay Trail.

"With some form of agreement," said Middlebrook, would clearly be able to class Bay Trail link that would be able to provide exceptional access who wants it, in addition to significant input to open space (and) recreation — which I don't think of anything that Lieber is talking about.

Supervisor spent his school years on the run

On June 13, El Cerrito High School will be torn down to make way for a new school. It's the end of an era but not the end of El Cerrito High's story. Today's students and parents are busy collecting artifacts and interviews to preserve the high school's 60-plus years of history.

The Journal also wants to honor that history and through the rest of the school year will present the stories of many of those who left their mark on El Cerrito High, written by El Cerrito High student David Ball, editor in chief of the school newspaper.



ECHS: A LOOK BACK
David Ball

EL CERRITO HIGH ARCHIVING PROJECT

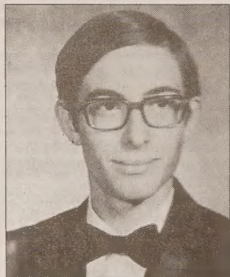
If you have an idea for someone to profile in this series on El Cerrito High School, e-mail suggestions to dmbs0101@aol.com. Coinciding with this series of historic articles are three archiving projects at El Cerrito High: a large museum-quality display case with more than 200 items, an oral history that will include interviews and will be made into a CD, and a See-El Cerrito-High-For-The-Last-Time weekend event. For information contact Joann Steck-Bayat at 510-524-9464 or jsbayat@comcast.net, or Lu Tipping at 233-7732 or tipping1@aol.com.

and track in the spring, Gioia spent almost all of his afternoons as a high school student running. With the memorable sounds of Oakland Athletics announcer Bill King blaring from the radio that the runners would bring to practice, the athletes ran to the cheers of the A's three straight World Series titles from 1972-1974.

"It was a great group of athletes, and we had great camaraderie. A lot was expected of you, but track taught a lot of discipline. It was a great way to spend the after-school hours."

Gioia still remains in the El Cerrito High record books for his mile time of four minutes and 45 seconds as a sophomore, which ranks in the top five for sophomores in school history. His fastest time ever came as a senior when he ran the mile in four minutes and 32 seconds.

Recalling why he got into politics, the supervisor says, "My father (who taught at Kennedy High School in Richmond) was my inspiration. He used to have guest speakers in his classes: journalists, politicians, and businesspeople. I came to hear them. I got ex-



JOHN GIOIA

FUTURE COUNTY SUPERVISOR
John Gioia as he looked in his high school yearbook picture and competing for the Gaucho track team.

posed to local politics through my father and developed an interest that way."

The first political campaign Gioia worked on was for Tom Powers in 1978. Powers was running for county supervisor. Several years earlier, Gioia had listened to Powers speak to his dad's class, now he was in charge of polling the voters for Powers' campaign. Powers won the election and Gioia was hired to work for him part time. However Gioia didn't follow this opportunity and start his own career in politics, instead he began to practice law.

It wasn't until 1998, when Gioia was elected to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, (the same position he had helped Tom Powers win) that he went into politics full time.

Firmly implanted in the present, Gioia is more than happy



with his job as a supervisor and the difference he is able to make. He sees no reason to leave Bay Area politics and hopes in the future to help unite local politics so that different groups and cities can start working together.

Gioia, 47, and his wife, Jennifer Peck, live in Richmond with their son Christopher, a seventh-grader, and their 8-month-old daughter, Emilia.

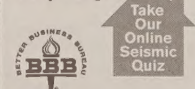
Thirty years after graduating, Gioia still returns to the El Cerrito High track. Only, this time, he is the one with the stopwatch, and his 12-year-old son, Chris, is the one racing around the track, leaving his old man in the dust.

David Ball is a senior at El Cerrito High, editor in chief of the school's newspaper El Caballero and a team captain for the varsity baseball and soccer teams. Reach him at dmbs0101@aol.com.

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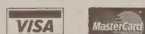


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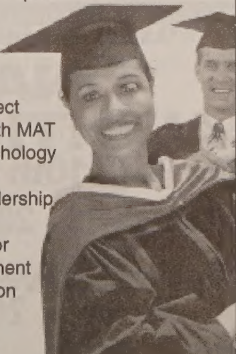
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Appreciating a very special home

...er 484 in a series of true
... in real estate
... the few houses available
... currently is an occasional
... one, like one we saw re-
... Albany, a beautifully de-
... house built in the late 1920s.
... a large house, only two
... and one bath, but it's a
... sized two-bedroom, not
... smaller version. And it's the
... model. Extra money was
... for the double wide lot on
... stands, also to provide both

No one had accidentally broken it, nor had anyone replaced it as part of a decorating update.

The house isn't completely unchanged. The stove and refrigerator are newer, the cabinets and countertops redone perhaps 50 years ago, and not awful. I thought it fortunate that the kitchen cabinetry was not replaced, say, 20 years ago in walnut or maple with scalloped insets popular then.

While all of the wooden windows in the living and dining rooms are



TAROFF AND TALBOT
True Experiences

I remember a particular house, in a sought after Berkeley location, in the same family for several generations. It was broken and dirty,

but also nothing had been altered, and it sold for a huge price.

I thought it was unfair that the reward was so great for doing nothing at all to, or for, that house.

Visiting the house in Albany caused me to wonder if I have been a thoughtful homeowner and remodeler. I've owned a few houses and have been responsible for changes to them.

I do not remember committing any specific remodeling sin, but maybe I did. I do hope not. I hope that I have not replaced or thrown out anything I should have left alone.

The house in which my ex-husband and I lived the longest, and changed most extensively, was not of high quality when built around the turn of the century. There was no hardwood used in the floors or trims, no unpainted, multi-lite windows.

See TAROFF, Page B2

I was very appreciative of the kind stewardship provided to this house. I began to think of other houses I've seen that have survived largely untouched.

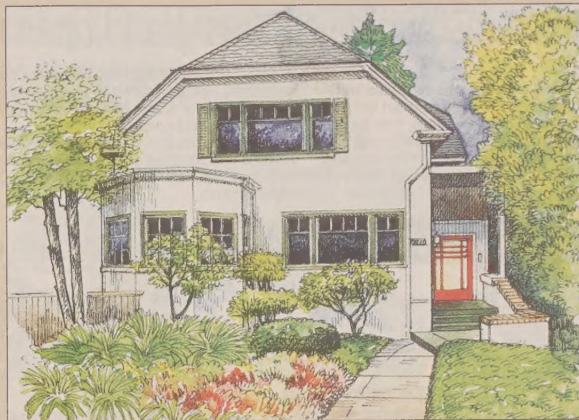
...to a number of houses
... the design a style referred
... Mediterranean.
... roof is edged with red clay
... front porch and steps are
... and over the front, largest
... is a wide and handsome
... detail.

... of the wooden floors, win-
... door casings in the house
... painted and stained dark,
... this house, all of the wood
... be well cared for. Plus —
... bonus — most of the
... light fixtures are still there,
... treasures.

... to the breakfast room first
... to Anet. "Come, see this
... overhead light is covered
... especially pretty piece of
... glass brightly painted with —
... even one like it — parrot!
... this glass survived intact
... years?

Real Estate Spotlight:

Berkeley hills home has rich family legacy



IN 1952, A PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH and his artist wife, both PhDs who had met in Sofia, Bulgaria, purchased the home at 2210 Los Angeles in Berkeley. They liked it for many reasons: they had three children and liked Oxford School; they liked the size (it has six bedrooms); they liked the proximity to the #67 bus stop (the children took the bus to school); they preferred being north of the University; they wanted a house that was level-in.

The house served them well. Their children grew up in this house, the parents lived in it until they died (the wife died last year at age 95) and the adult children are now ready to pass it on to the next lucky buyers.

Set back from the street, it has a welcoming sunroom porch, which allows for a gentle transition from the outdoors to the inside, a back yard, some bay view, pretty green outlooks from many windows, good light and generous spaces. There are six bedrooms, two plus rooms, three bathrooms, beautiful hardwood floors and a graceful floor plan. It has an excellent central location and is close to amenities.

Price: \$919,000. Open Sunday, March 13, 2 to 4:30 p.m.

Agent: Norah Brower, Berkeley Hills Realty, 510-524-9888, ext. 26.

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Open Homes



El Cerrito \$689,000
Sweeping 3-bridge views! Lovely 3 bedroom, 3 bath home on secluded private drive. Kensington Elementary School. Modern, updated kitchen w/pantry, spacious family/dining room opening to sweet garden & deck. Skylights, gleaming hardwood floors, workshop, au-pair quarters.

8306 Terrace Dr.
Todd Hodson

Open Sun 2-4
559-2915



El Cerrito \$595,000
Fabulous views from this beautiful home. Three bedrooms, one bath on main floor. Huge tile-floored studio or family room, plus dark room, hobby room. 1/2 bath, and laundry downstairs. Gleaming hardwood floors, fireplace, lovely remodeled kitchen. Immaculate condition!

6938 Fairview Drive
Sue Nelson & Darrell Hoh

Open Sun 2-4:30
510-527-2700x25



Coming Soon...Albany \$589,000
From the inviting front porch to the spacious light-filled rooms, this Albany home has it all! Large, open living & dining room, two bedrooms, beautiful hardwood floors, fireplace, kitchen with breakfast nook, deck & huge rear yard. Plus a separate home office. Super location!

Richard Morrison

527-2700x32



Kensington \$549,000
Lovely 3-bedroom home or sizable 7000 sq. ft. lot. Well maintained. New dual-paned windows, electrical service, and landscaping. Hardwood floors throughout. Spacious kitchen. Ready to move right into!

54 Eureka Ave.
Patrick Duffy

Contact Agent
847-9147



El Cerrito \$515,000
Stunning remodel in prime El Cerrito location. New kitchen, bath, roof, drainage and retaining wall. Bonus/office space, 2 bed, 1 ba, formal dining room and more. Close to EC Plaza, BART, AC Transit. Must see!

610 Albemarle St.
Jean Shrem & Marni Fischer

Open Sun 2-4
882-9992



El Cerrito \$498,000
Gardener's Paradise. Sunny, updated bungalow on quiet street. Three bedrooms, 1.5 baths, remodeled kitchen with maple cabinets and granite counter-tops. Double-paned windows. Huge garden with fruit trees.

1322 Norwell St.
Todd Hodson

Open Sun 2-4
559-2915



El Cerrito \$489,000
Charming, well-maintained two bedroom, one bath home near Colusa Circle shops and cafes. Sunny dining room, open kitchen, hardwood floors under carpet, one-car attached garage. Garden with camellias.

7630 Ward Ave.
Diana Mendler

Open Sun 2-4
559-2937



Berkeley \$299,000
Sunny top floor 1 bedroom condo. Dual paned windows, deck off living room. Walk to BART, Café Fanny, Fourth Street shops!

1644 #B, San Pablo Ave
Alice McLeish

Open Sun 2-4
384-9992



Oakland \$289,000
Convenient Location. This freshly painted, top-floor condo is walking distance to Lake Merritt, BART, carpooling. It has 2 bedrooms, skylights in living room and bath, Pergo hardwood floor in living room, new vinyl windows & sliding door to patio. Upgraded kitchen and bath.

360 Vernon St. #307
Herman Sun

Open Sun 2-4
559-2929

For more information about these properties visit www.marvingardens.com



CALVIN FONG, assistant to Mayor Tom Bates, left, presents a welcoming certificate from the City of Berkeley to Century 21 Manager Ray Sharma.

BayRealtor Group celebrates grand opening

CENTURY 21
Gold, black and white balloons decorated the new Century 21 BayRealtor Group office at 901 University Ave. In Berkeley last Thursday. People from the community and real estate industry mingled, enjoying the celebration that was complete with food and drink. Ray Sharma welcomed guests to his new office at the corner of Seventh Street and University Avenue.

Calvin Fong, assistant to Mayor Tom Bates, presented a welcoming certificate signed by Tom Bates, the Mayor of Berkeley. Sharon Brown, the Mayor of San Pablo, also attended the grand opening.

Representatives from various real estate firms came to extend welcoming wishes. For more information about Century 21 BayRealtor Group, call 510-444-SOLD or visit BayRealtor.com.

Tarpoiff

FROM PAGE B1

By the time we bought it, it had been reworked into an awkward duplex that shared the same front and back doors. The lower floor, containing the main living room and kitchen, was a series of small, cheaply constructed rooms.

We returned the house to a single dwelling and we brought to it better things — old, reclaimed, solid wood doors; antique, rewired lighting; new, good stairs to the third floor attic; a thick pine slab counter for the kitchen.

I did send to the dump quite a few old, wide-slat Venetian blinds and the cornice boxes that covered their tops. Those blinds might come back into style, I suppose, and I might be sorry. Maybe even I will be looking for Venetian blinds someday, but I doubt it.

I've stripped acres of paint from wood, a horribly tedious job. Removing paint is probably a good thing although I know that most redwood and Douglas fir was never intended to be unpainted. Instead, these woods were used because they were plentiful and inexpensive, and they were painted immediately upon installation.

True, too, of floors constructed of soft woods: they were meant to be carpeted or covered with

However, although I love the look of plank floors, I have never been able to bring myself to paint bare wood. I guess I spent much time taking paint off of wood.

linoleum. I am not a purist. I have taken the covering off of softwood floors, had them refinished, and enjoyed them bare.

However, although I love the look of painted plank floors, I have never been able to bring myself to paint bare wood. I guess I spent too much time taking paint off of wood.

Pat Talbert and Amy... residential real estate... can be reached at 650-... www.tarpoiffatlab.com

THIS WEEK'S OPEN HOUSE GUIDE IS ON PAGE B1

3 New Listings



WONDERFUL! #41 - 2 bdrm. 2 bath home. Great landscaped rear yard, view, lots of storage, new water heater. Newly painted hearth w/ fireplace. Great neighborhood.



506 MONTCLAIR AVE. #45 - House located in the 2 bedroom/1 bath. 1 car garage. Upgraded kitchen, tiled floor, office/den & newer roof. w/2 bedrooms & full bath. size lot 8,000 with lots of greenery.



1556 TUCKER BLVD. #37 - Pride of ownership! 4000 sq. ft. condo located in the new Bay Community on Oakland & San Pablo. Bright upper unit with bedroom suite & ceiling fan. Includes ice and water dispenser & dryer are included. Close to BART & University.

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5214 Belvedere St, Oakland

An elegantly updated 2Br/1Ba Craftsman style home with a large, beautifully landscaped rear yard near the attractive Maxwell Park neighborhood.

\$440,000

See photos at .realtyadvocates.com/5214belvedere.html

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NEW LISTING



4268 Suter Street, Oakland

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NEW LISTING



3944 Fruitvale Avenue Oakland

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Charm galore! Spacious three bedroom, one bath home nestled amidst the trees and gardens. Remodeled kitchen and bathroom. Quiet street, friendly neighborhood close to coffee and shops.

Offered at \$579,000



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531-7000 x239



2027 26th AVENUE

\$425,000

Fruitvale. Tastefully renovated, split level home. Living room w/fireplace, formal dining room with refinished hardwood floors. Kitchen has granite counter, dishwasher, disposal, appliances too. Updated bathroom, garage w/laundry and large rear yard. New paint inside & out. Frank Hennefer

531-7000 x235

COMING SOON



REDWOOD HEIGHTS

\$750,000

Mixed-use building in Redwood Heights. Excellent location. Two retail units and 3 apartments with off-street parking and lots of upgrades throughout. Beth DeAtley

531-7006 x234

COMING SOON



CROCKER HIGHLANDS

\$575,000

Engaging 3BD/1BA, living room with fireplace, dining room, eat-in kitchen with Southwest feel, updated bath, plus room, big front and rear yards and greenhouse. Stan Hammond

531-7000 x246

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

PIEDMONT AVENUE

\$2,400,000

Office complex near Kaiser. Brown-shingle charm, many upgrades. Therapy offices. Anne Bruff

531-7006 x283



STORYBOOK COMPLEX

\$1,400,000

Six brown-shingle units on 16,600 sq.ft. lot, including a single family home, a triplex and 2 cottages. Near Piedmont Ave. Anne Bruff

531-7006 x283

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



WONDERFUL ARTIST-DESIGNED

BUNGALOW

\$429,000

Maxwell Park. Unique 2bd/1ba designed by owner/artist! Living & dining room w/built-in cabinets, hardwood floors, remodeled out-in kitchen & baths, basement for storage, sunny deck & level yard. Kate Phillips

531-7000 x228

LAND

OAKMORE DISTRICT LOT

\$395,000

12,227 sq.ft. retreat off Hwy 13 in Montclair. Gorgeous redwoods surround this special lot. Gentle downslope with utilities at street. Super private. Frank Hennefer

531-7000 x235

CLAREMONT AREA

\$299,000

Above Claremont hotel. Partial Bay view. Upslope with utilities in street. Area of multi-million dollar homes. Financing available too! Frank Hennefer

531-7000 x235

NEW LISTING-

MONTCLAIR DOWNSLOPE

\$199,000

Balboa Drive within Shepherd Canyon area. Priced to sell. Financing available. Reports and home site plan included. Frank Hennefer

531-7000 x235

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AAR to fete past presidents

THE ALAMEDA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS (AAR) is celebrating its 100th Anniversary. Long a tradition at AAR, the luncheon is an important way for the association's past presidents to be recognized. "It's a great honor," said past president Janet Halliburton, who is co-chairing the event with fellow past president Joan Alford.

The Alameda Association of Realtors celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 2004 and has a proud history of serving the member Realtors in the community.

Members of the local association are invited to the National Association of Realtors luncheon and to subscribe to the AAR newsletter. The luncheon will be held on Thursday, March 10 at the Seafood Restaurant in Jack London Square.

The luncheon is not only for past presidents but also to give them a chance to network and discuss current affairs at AAR.



TEAMING UP: OAR past presidents Janet Halliburton, left, and Joan Alford are working to make next Thursday's Past Presidents Luncheon a success.

Alford said, "We hope that OAR's past presidents will come and get reacquainted with and get involved in volunteering for current board activities."

Invitations and calls are going out to all past presidents. All OAR past presidents are invited. To learn more, call Joan Alford at Coldwell Banker at 510-339-4700.

Look around the real estate community



News and information for and the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

THE PUBLIC

The Alameda Association of Realtors is always welcome to the Inform Meeting. The Inform Meeting is sponsored by the Alameda Association of Realtors. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month. The focus is an in-depth speaker and the discussion of important topics. The Inform Meeting and the Islander, stay tuned about the market, economy and economy. Agents bring their listings for presentation. For more information contact AAR at 510-339-4700.

The National Association of Realtors measures recently to support for our nation's veterans the POW/MIA flag. The new Washington headstone flag is a sign of respect for our military men. The group supports legislation for more veterans eligible for home loans. By increasing guaranty limits, a boost

See REID, Page B4

The GRUBB Co.

COMING SOON



51 Melvin Court, Oakland

COMING SOON. Panoramic Bay/Peninsula views in lovely Oakmore. Secluded contemporary on quiet court offers decks, garden and lots of sunshine. Vaulted ceilings throughout, spacious master suite, hardwood floors, new carpets and windows. A great floor plan and thoughtful details.

Offered at \$789,000



JUDITH CAIN

Office: 510.339.0400/209
cain@grubbco.com
GRUBBCO.COM

1425 Everett, El Cerrito Open Sunday 3/6 from 2-5pm



Lovingly well-maintained, a terrific starter home! An abundance of charm and gleaming wood laminate floors greet you as you enter this 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with attached garage. Close to transportation, freshly painted, dual pane windows, nicely landscaped yard, great neighborhood.

Offered at \$399,000



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Mark P. Choi
(510) 381-1116

Photo Tour at

www.markpchoi.com



The GRUBB Co.

NEW LISTING



528 Hampton Road, Piedmont

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Stylish level living in Upper Piedmont Estates. Four bedrooms, library/den, three + baths. Random planks floors, generous room sizes, two fireplaces and a peek of San Francisco.

Offered at \$1,250,000



LINDA MCCLAIN
OFFICE: 339.0400/226
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Photo Tours
of this and other current listings.

North Berkeley

ALAN PINET



Kelly Deal

Office 899.8000 Ext. 311
Cell 510.484.4300
www.apr.com

This ± 4000 sq. ft. Arts & Crafts masterpiece by noted architect Walter Ratcliff Jr. is a truly special home, beautifully maintained and updated. The .28 acre parcel with Golden Gate Bridge views includes a separate residential lot providing a rare opportunity! Price upon request.

apr.com / Montclair Village/6116 La Salle Ave., 2nd Floor / 510.899.8000

NORTH OAKLAND

Open Sun.
Mar. 6
2-5 PM.



829 & 831 55th Street • Two Homes on one Lot!

CLAS HOME PLUS INCOME OR SHARED LIVING! Both homes have recently been updated by the Seller in modern style with old world charm. Walk into the main home and enjoy the lovely landscaping and pretty slate tile. The main home features 2 bedrooms and 1 bath, a kitchen/family room combo, pretty formal dining room, fresh hardwood floors and more. Downstairs is large non-conforming space with bath, laundry and attached garage. The back cottage features one bedroom, one bath, eat-in kitchen and garden space. And there's more too! Just a beautiful home waiting for YOU!

Offered at \$628,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723

www.donnaconroy.com for photos



1767 Indian Way, Oakland Open Sunday, 2-4:30pm!



Stunning 3 Year Old Montclair Contemporary!

Custom built 4135 sq ft 3 year old contemporary in the majestic Montclair hills. 4 Bd, 4.5 ba, master bedroom suite with balcony, formal living room, family room, formal dining room, chef's kitchen, and study all with exceptional craftsmanship. Surrounding canyon views!

Asking Price \$1,100,000

For a Virtual Home Tour Visit me at www.NahidNassiri.com

MONTCLAIR



NAHID NASSIRI

Direct: 510.339.4550
(510) 339-8400 Direct

JUST LISTED

OPEN SUN 2-4

291 Purdue Ave. Kensington



Rare upper Kensington duplex consisting of a delightful sun filled split level traditional two bedroom one bath Bay View Home plus a charming legal non conforming one bedroom cottage.

Offered at \$649,000

RE/MAX
EXECUTIVE

527-8545
UryBeary@comcast.net

Ury Beary
Broker Associate



The GRUBB Co.

NEW LISTING



6045 Contra Costa Road, Upper Rockridge

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Mid-century home in popular Upper Rockridge. Gorgeous front garden and back decks. A very flexible floor plan. Lovely Bay views! Three plus bedrooms and three baths.

Offered at \$899,000



ANGELA WEI GRUBB
OFFICE: 339.0400/202
awgrubb@grubbco.com
GRUBBCO.COM

Visit GRUBBCO.COM for
Photo Tours
of this and other current listings.

A sampling of our current listings:



Pine Lake

3 bedroom, 2 bath beauty built in 1940 is close to shopping, transportation, Stern Grove, Lake Merced and the Ocean. Large living room, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen that looks out on the center park.

\$749,000



Oakland

Craftsman style home currently used as a duplex. 4 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths up; 1 bedroom, 1 bath down. Approx. 2,900 sq. ft. of living space.

\$865,000



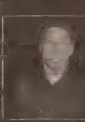
Arza Vista

Elegant corner home on a double lot. 4 bedrooms, 4 baths on 2 levels. Eat-in kitchen. 2 fireplaces, refinished inlaid floors. 2 car side-by-side garage. Close to Fillmore shopping, Japantown and walking distance to Golden Gate Park.

\$1,550,000



Prudential California Realty



Jim Hedges
manager
sfunionjim@aol.com
415-762-9399



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Real Estate Focus:**Investment opportunity near downtown Oakland**

IT'S TIME FOR A 1031 EXCHANGE and here's the perfect opportunity! The large property at 611 23rd Street, Oakland, has four legal units (per county tax records) and is located in one of Oakland's up-and-coming neighborhoods. There is one large three-bedroom, one-bath unit and a one-bedroom, one-bath unit upstairs, plus two one-bedroom, one-bath units downstairs. The vacant three-bedroom unit has been refurbished with fresh paint and new carpets. There is an unfinished full basement and small back yard. The property is near downtown Oakland and has easy access to the 24/580/880 freeways, bus lines and BART. The surrounding area is seeing significant development with new lofts and offices. Price: \$550,000. Open Sunday, 2 - 4:30 p.m. Listing agent: Quinn Stone, Bayside Real Estate, Alameda, 510-521-1647, or e-mail quinn@bayside-realestate.com.

Reid

FROM PAGE B3

is given to veterans in high-cost areas. The president signed the bill into law in January. To find out more about NAR visit www.realtor.com.

Book signing

Join small business tax expert, **Jan Zobel** for "Small Business Expenses: Make Every Deduction Count", 7 p.m., Thursday, March 10, in Montclair. A Great Place For Books and Wells Fargo Bank present this free Montclair event. Bring your questions to this informal talk. Zobel will signing her book *Minding Her Own Business: The Self-Employed Woman's Essential Guide To Taxes And Financial Records*. To reserve a signed copy call the bookstore at 510-339-8210. Contact her at www.janztax.com.

Free Classes

Attend the "Home-Sellers Weekly Roundtable", an informational session led by Realtor Todd Ensley of Pacific Union. Learn what's needed to sell your home for top dollar. Join the discussion 7 to 8 p.m., Wednesday, March 9, at the Royal Ground Café, on Mountain Boulevard, in Oakland. Call 510-910-5757.

Attend "How To Buy Your First Home In Oakland" in the Montclair district of Oakland. This free seminar is 9:30 to 11 a.m., Saturday, March 19, at Montclair Better Homes on Mountain Boulevard. Get the information needed to have an edge over other buyers. Enjoy a light breakfast and prizes. RSVP by calling Rhoda at 510-339-2121 ext. 201.

Retiring? Real estate can bring retirement security. Rent out your current home and move up without touching your savings. The free seminar is Tuesday, March 8, at the San Leandro Main Library. To register call 888-629-0077 ext. 9050.

Homeownership. The Home Buyer Assistance Center in Oakland offers an information session, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 9. Learn about a new program that could make you a homeowner. Reserve a seat by calling (510) 832-6925 ext. 100.

Options? The "Early Retirement Home Selling Options" seminar offers obligation free information. Downsizing to condo living, the effects of the capital gains tax and estate planning will be discussed. The class is scheduled 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, March 12, in San Leandro. To learn more call 866-565-0432.

First-time. Loan Consultant, **George Johnson** of GB Johnson Financial Services, offers a free first time buyer informational workshop in Oakland. Featured topics are zero percent down payment, FHA and conventional loans. Johnson will offer facts affordable properties. For information on future workshops contact Johnson at www.gbjohnson.com.

Meyers

Step back in time, at The Meyers House & Garden, an 1897 treasure. It was designed by Henry H. Meyers in the Colonial Revival style, a period that was popular in Alameda at the turn of the century. The Meyers family maintained possession of the home for almost one hundred years. This home has become Alameda's first and only house museum. Visit the house on the fourth Saturday of the month, 1 to 4 p.m., call for House Tours costs and information at 510-521-1247.

Meyers House is available for small receptions and weddings check openings and costs at 510-748-4565.

MORSEY

And they're off! The Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter plans a "Day At The Races". The event is 1 to 4 p.m., Wednesday,

See REID, Page B5

Contact the real estate editor at 510-748-165 or e-mail devanosky@cctimes.comAdvertisers: To be considered for the Real Estate Focus (inside box) e-mail text and photo to: ljessep@cctimes.com**MORTGAGE PL**

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ALAIN PIN

ORINDA \$3,888,000 LAFAYETTE \$1,475,000 WALNUT CREEK \$1,000,000

**The Castle on the Mountain**

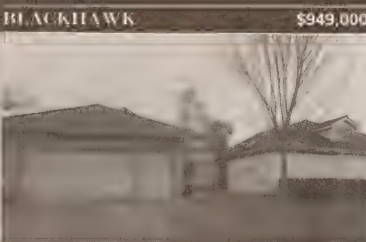
MONTECASTELLI. New construction with European design and quality. Elegant, opulent, and exciting; a magnificent Tuscan villa. Grotto style pool, pavilion, and two waterfalls. Wooded lot with view.

**Tuscan Villa**

Mediterranean-style expanded and remodeled home. This elegant 4+bd/3ba home offers 3200+/-sf of living space on 0.61+/- ac lot. Large creek side lot with lawn area, redwood decking and entertainment areas.

**New Listing**

Gorgeous 2614+/-sf Northgate extensively remodeled with Brazilian hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen limestone and granite, 4bd/3ba, fabulous yard with lawn, patios and pool.

**BLACKHAWK**

\$949,000

**OAKLAND**

\$699,000

**SAN FRANCISCO****Blackhawk Country Club**

Within the main gates and on the golf course of the Blackhawk Country Club, this beautiful 3 bedroom single-story detached home features a swimming pool, 2-car plus golf cart garage and a charming back yard.

Enchanting Glenview Craftsman

New Listing. This 4bd/2.5ba charmer has all the period architectural details intact: inlaid hardwood floors, wainscoting, built-ins, vintage light fixtures, coved LR ceiling, leaded windows. Updated baths and new foundation.

Edwardian Flat

Recently remodeled 3bd/1.5ba, tenement common. Very spacious home with period details, large kitchen and hardwood floors. Walking distance to cafes, restaurants and shops.

**ANTIOCH**

\$435,000

**CONCORD**

\$255,000

**WALNUT CREEK**

Price Upon Review

Coming Soon

This lovely 3 bedroom, 2 bath home in Mira Vista has an absolutely beautiful pool, spa, and cascading waterfall, 1-car garage. Lush landscaping and foliage. Custom designed for entertaining and priced to sell.

New to the Market

1bd/1ba move-in condition, secluded location on 2nd floor. Has updated kitchen and bath. Berber carpet, vaulted ceilings, new paint, large closets and storage. Nice complex with pool and tennis courts.

Coming Soon

Rare single-story 2700+/-sf Northgate loaded with curb appeal offers hardwood floors throughout, new gourmet kitchen, vaulted ceilings, 4bd/2.5ba, beautiful yard and much more.

ORINDA 2 Theatre Square 925.258.1111 | MONTCLAIR 6116 LaSalle Avenue 510.899.8000

David & Claire
Cunningham

510-287-9065

claire.cunningham@prerealty.com

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PIEDMONT - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



190 SANDRINGHAM ROAD \$2,195,000
A beautifully updated & spacious home on a quiet cul-de-sac. Fabulous master suite, huge kitchen/family room. Au-pair suite. 4BR/4+BA. Sandra Vogl



523 HAMPTON ROAD \$1,250,000
Stylish level living in upper Piedmont Estates. Spacious formal rooms, random plank floors, two fireplaces. 4+BR/3.5BA. Linda

OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



7026 NORFOLK ROAD \$1,350,000
Beautiful & spacious 4BR/3.5BA. Fabulous gourmet kitchen. Master suite w/sensational bath! Separate aupair w/private entrance & kitchen. Carolyn Jones



1162 TRESTLE GLEN ROAD \$995,000
A wonderful traditional Crocker Highlands home w/ 3+BR/2.5BA. Beautiful woodwork, great natural light w/ kitchen/family room and a mastersuite. Kurt Buchholz



62 ENTRADA AVENUE \$630,000
Sweetest Craftsman in the perfect cul-de-sac location. Classic details and stained glass. 1/2 block to Park Ave. shops. 3+BR/1BA. Lovely garden.

992 SUNNYHILLS ROAD \$1,150,000
Elegant English, rich in architectural detail, offers perfect access to magical level garden. Graceful windows, French doors, new kitchen/family room, dining room & cozy den. 3+BR/2+BA. Judith Cain



3944 FRUITVALE AVENUE \$579,000
Charm abounds in this vintage home in a friendly quiet Dimond neighborhood. Spacious 3BR/2.5BA. Stylish remodel w/original built-ins intact. Coffee and shops. Anne Van

644 CHETWOOD STREET \$999,000
Grand Victorian multi-unit beauty, on a large lot w/ sunny lawn & gardens, just steps from the Rose Garden. Perfect for owner occupancy. Owner unit has 2BR/1.5BA. Fireplace & hardwood floors. Sheila Gallagher

4268 SUTER STREET \$379,000
Charming, spacious bungalow. Updated large kitchen w/stainless gourmet appliances. Original built-in details. Large detached studio/office. Lush garden, to coffee & shops. Hope Br

BERKELEY - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



4975 GRIZZLY PEAK \$1,950,000
Highest elevation with 360 degree views on a beautiful park-like setting. Legal in-law & home office w/ Golden Gate view. 4BR/3.5BA. Jill Carrigan



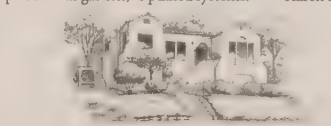
1735 SONOMA AVENUE \$849,000
Fabulous 3BR/1.5BA Mediterranean in best No. Berkeley location. Updated eat-in-kitchen opens level-out to huge, private rear garden. Updated systems. Karen Starr



1717 ROSE STREET \$599,000
Captivating details, built-ins & wainscoting throughout. Interior color palate. Great natural light. Huge spaces. Workshop. 2BR/1BA. Chris



1073 CRAGMONT AVENUE \$950,000
Such style! Southwestern splendor! Wooded retreat close to everything! 3BR/2.5BA, formal dining room & family room. Fully updated. One-of-a-kind. Bebe McRae



1652 VISALIA AVENUE \$649,000
Charming light-filled Mediterranean in prime Thousand Oaks neighborhood. Lovely views & details. Spacious 2BR/1BA classic w/large garden. Michael Friedman



1326 QUEENS ROAD \$549,000
Sophisticated contemporary jewel w/Golden Gate and Bay views. Private romantic hideaway near Campus and Tilden Park. Helen

SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT



MEDITERRANEAN \$1,795,000
Elegant Mediterranean in the heart of Piedmont. Rich in architectural details. 4+++BR/3BA, level rear garden. Partial Bay view. Spacious formal rooms. Debra J. Dryden



BERKELEY COTTAGE \$825,000
You will love this beautifully restored & spacious 4BR/3BA cottage with great views, plus a lower bedroom & bath with a separate entrance. Bebe McRae



SAN LEANDRO \$399,000
Spacious & cheerful 1BR. Bonus area off kitchen. Hardwood floors, garden w/fruit trees. Great neighborhood, close to coffee & restaurants. Mary

BUILDABLE LOTS

MONTCLAIR LOT \$185,000
Downslope Montclair lot with canyon view. Across street from Huckleberry trail entrance.

STUNNING VIEWS \$1,795,000
Magnificent view lot in Upper Rockridge. Level buildable site. Quiet cul-de-sac location. Elizabeth Dick

WEEKEND PLANS?

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WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA
 1154 Admiralty Ln - \$557,000
 1441 Alameda Av - \$875,000
 237 Balena Bl - \$815,000
 701 Central Av - \$418,000
 148 Central Av - \$590,000
 101 College Av - \$790,000
 101 Hollister Av - \$718,500
 101 Holly Oak Ln - \$530,000
 11 Ironwood Rd - \$653,000
 111 Madison St - \$650,000
 185 Mangrove Ln - \$469,000

BERKELEY
 161 62nd St - \$504,000
 104 6th St - \$600,000
 119 Ashby Av - \$210,000
 133 Bancroft Wy - \$365,000
 122 Carleton Av - \$511,000
 100 College Av - \$450,000
 100 Francisco St - \$540,000
 100 Panoramic Wy - \$550,000
 101 San Benito - \$1,200,000
 109 Spaulding Av - \$525,000
 105 The Alameda - \$650,000
 109 The Alameda - \$804,000

CERRITO
 1000 Avila St - \$415,000

EMERYVILLE
 1000 Apollon Village Ct - \$479,000
 1000 Apollon Village Ct - \$491,000
 1000 Barranca Av - \$270,000
 1000 La Paloma Rd - \$345,000
 1000 Lisa Ct - \$395,000

EMERYVILLE
 1000 40th St 1202 - \$317,500
 1000 40th St 1205 - \$326,000
 1000 40th St 2206 - \$475,000
 1000 40th St 2304 - \$488,500
 1000 40th St 4103 - \$300,000
 1000 40th St 4104 - \$297,000
 1000 40th St 4207 - \$301,500
 1000 40th St 4306 - \$315,000
 1000 47th St - \$608,000
 1000 Anchor F441 - \$302,000
 1000 Horton 811 - \$440,000

EMERYVILLE
 1000 10th St - \$550,000
 1000 10th St - \$240,000
 1000 12th St - \$420,000
 1000 14th Av - \$485,000
 1000 14th St - \$400,000
 1000 24th Av - \$200,000
 1000 25th Av - \$550,000
 1000 28th Av - \$520,000
 1000 42nd St - \$662,000
 1000 50th Av - \$157,500
 1000 53rd St - \$360,500
 1000 54th St - \$580,000
 1000 61st Av - \$650,000
 1000 61st St - \$462,000
 1000 64th Av Pl - \$535,000
 1000 68th Av - \$469,000
 1000 69th Av - \$388,000
 1000 71st Av - \$339,000
 1000 72nd Av - \$260,000
 1000 72nd Av - \$348,000
 1000 76th Av - \$276,000
 1000 76th Av - \$374,000
 1000 80th Av - \$283,500
 1000 82nd Av - \$392,000
 1000 83rd Av - \$380,000
 1000 84th Av - \$444,000
 1000 8th St - \$1,030,000
 1000 90th Av - \$490,000
 1000 94th Av - \$300,000
 1000 Alken Dr - \$920,000
 1000 Alcala Av - \$486,000
 1000 Alcatraz - \$519,000
 1000 Avenue - \$100,000
 1000 Bantley Av - \$447,000
 1000 Bay Forest Ct - \$270,000
 1000 Broadway Tr 106 - \$521,000
 1000 Brookdale B - \$270,000
 1000 Brookdale Av - \$259,000
 1000 Buckingham - \$755,500
 1000 Campbell St - \$509,000
 1000 Campbell St - \$450,000
 1000 Capricorn Av - \$1,277,500
 1000 Chelton Dr - \$750,000
 1000 Colton Bl - \$1,020,000
 1000 Coolidge Av - \$419,000
 1000 Crescent St - \$370,000
 1000 Dashedwood - \$320,000
 1000 Dorothy Pl - \$1,600,000
 1000 Douglas Av - \$421,000
 1000 East 15th St - \$480,000
 1000 East 15th St - \$410,000
 1000 East 16th St - \$500,000
 1000 East 25th St - \$400,000
 1000 East 28th St - \$530,000
 1000 East 31st St - \$473,500
 1000 East Cr - \$925,000
 1000 Emire Rd - \$419,000
 1000 F St - \$325,000
 1000 Foothill Bl - \$430,000
 1000 Glen Pk Road - \$785,000
 1000 Gravatt Dr - \$2,220,000
 1000 Hansom Dr - \$681,000
 1000 Heartwood - \$641,000
 1000 Heather Ridge - \$865,000
 1000 Hillside St - \$252,500
 1000 Hillside St - \$223,000
 1000 Inyo Av - \$570,000
 1000 Ironwood - \$597,000
 1000 Jean St B - \$562,000
 1000 Jordan Rd - \$759,000
 1000 Lakeside 1109 - \$450,500
 1000 Lakeside 1903 - \$668,500
 1000 Lakeside 610 - \$357,000
 1000 Lakeside 612 - \$372,000
 1000 Lakeside 904 - \$409,000
 1000 Majestic Av - \$480,000
 1000 Makin Rd - \$330,000
 1000 Manuel Ct - \$407,000
 1000 Maycon Ct - \$595,000
 1000 Mead Av - \$400,000
 1000 Montanock - \$364,000
 1000 Merrill St - \$586,000
 1000 Mountain Bl - \$985,000
 1000 Mattress Wy - \$350,000
 1000 Olive St - \$360,000
 1000 Orange St 105 - \$265,000
 1000 Outlook Av - \$495,000
 1000 Outlook Av - \$496,000
 1000 Outlook Av - \$107,500

3127 Partridge Av - \$635,000
 260 Perkins St 2A - \$380,000
 8407 Plymouth St - \$295,000
 6222 Robin Hood - \$627,000
 11033 Robledo Dr - \$340,000
 10601 Russet St - \$310,000
 6932 Sayre Dr - \$720,000
 5425 Shafter Av - \$843,000
 2415 Siesta Ln - \$250,000
 7251 Skyline Bl - \$1,060,000
 8036 Sunkist Dr - \$495,000
 1564 Tucker St 45 - \$460,000
 See SALES, Page B8

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Homes-Link Real Estate was created in 1985 to help people buy and sell real estate at a reduced commission. We have thirty years of East Bay Real Estate experience. Our clients are provided **full service** while saving hundreds of thousands of dollars annually in real estate fees and commissions, thus allowing them to put their hard earned money in their own pocket for better uses elsewhere.

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400 East Bay homes 4 sale online

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Elegant North Berkeley English-Style Home



Open Sunday 2-4:30

761 Spruce Street, Berkeley

Traditional home features grand living room with vaulted ceiling, large window to Bay views, formal dining room, spacious kitchen, master bedroom with sitting room, 3 other bedrooms, 2 baths, private yard; freshly painted, floors redone.

Offered at \$895,000

Visit a tour of this home at www.berkhills.com



Maya Trilling
510-524-9888 x18



www.berkhills.com ■ 510.524.9888

BERKELEY HILLS REALTY



761 Spruce Street, Berkeley

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

New Listing! Traditional English style home situated on a large lot. Enjoy lovely views from the dining room and large, elegant living room. 2-story home features 4 bedrooms, a sitting room, 2 baths, spacious kitchen and breakfast room, and a private yard.

Maya Trilling 524-9888 x18 \$895,000

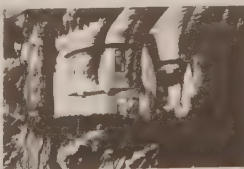


224 Carmel Ave., El Cerrito

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 5:00

This tastefully renovated home has been in the same family since it was built in 1938. There are 3+ bdrms, 2 full baths, a large kitchen w/maple cabinets & granite counters, a living room w/beautiful frpl, & a separate dining rm. There are hwd floors throughout, newer windows & French doors to bkyd. Great street, Jerome neighborhood, close to BART, shop, eats.

Chris Ehlers-Hardie 524-9888 x22 \$675,000



308 Elwood Ave., Oakland

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

Elegant 3 bdrm, 2 bath craftsman w/built-ins & stained glass located in the great Grand Lake area. Formal dining rm, huge master bdrm w/spacious closets. Lrg, remodeled eat-in kitchen level out to private yard & deck. Bdrm, bath on lower level w/sep. entrance. Garage. Approx. 1811 sf. A real gem.

Jane Allen 524-9888 x23 \$595,000



320 Caldecott Ln, #121, Oakland

"The Parkwoods" By Appointment

Gorgeous 1-level, spacious "Piedmont model", 2 bdrms, 2 baths w/quiet outlook. Gas frpl, open gourmet kit, 2 sep. mstr bdrms suites, 2 balconies, 2 parking spaces. Upgrades include granite counters, hwd floors, Berber carpet, closet organizer & warm designer colors. Wonderful amenities in this newer, gated complex w/pool, hot tub, gym, clubhouse, security & express bus to SF & BART.

Denise Milburn 524-9888 x35 \$445,000

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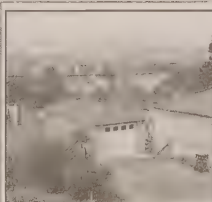


Just Listed!

3020 College Ave
Berkeley

Stunning Elmwood 5 units
w/rich architectural details!

\$995,000

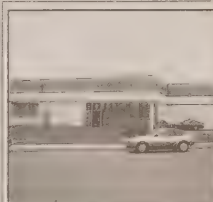


Just Listed!

8101 McCormick Ave
Oakland

4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
w/sweeping SF Bay views!

\$600,000



Rare Opportunity!

9845 Kitty Lane
Oakland

Industrial Warehouse in
Business Park by OAK Int'l

\$1,900,000

Visit us online at **ListedSold.com**



View Photo Tours
On The Web



3900 Midvale, Oakland

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

A hundred daffodils are about to bloom in the garden of this sweet home. Large corner lot in a sought-after neighborhood. 2 bdrms, 1 bath, updated kitchen w/adjoining sunroom. Lovely hwd floors; fireplace. Garage space waiting for your creativity to become an office, studio or fabulous work space. Fenced yard w/glorious magnolia.

Arlene Baxter 524-9888 x19 \$419,000



4117D Penniman Ct., Maxwell Park
Oakland

By Appointment

Adorable, updated, 2-bdrm beauty on quiet cul-de-sac. Special features in this warm and inviting home include designer colors, hwd floors, decorative fireplace & remodeled kitchen w/top-of-the-line appliances, unique maple cabinets & imported tile counters. Wonderful, friendly neighborhood w/easy access to fwy.

Denise Milburn 524-9888 x35 \$399,000



2615 Telegraph Ave., #303, Berkeley

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New Listing! Wonderful 1-bdrm condo in newer complex close to campus. Freshly painted, hwd flrs & crown molding. Ideal for students. Excellent location w/easy access to great restaurants, shops, cafes, BART & more!

Denise Milburn 524-9888 x35 \$359,000

"Thank you so much for all your help
in finding us our beautiful home.
We are lucky to have known you."

—A. & W. F., Berkeley

Albany ■ Berkeley ■ El Cerrito ■ Emeryville ■ Kensington ■ Oakland ■ Piedmont ■ Richmond ■ and beyond

510.524.9888 ■ www.berkhills.com

Sales

FROM PAGE B7

2939 Union St. - \$411,000
591 Valle Vista - \$932,000
9362 Vista Ct. - \$235,000
2557 Wallace St. - \$350,000
321 Warwick 204 - \$255,000
4749 Wilkie St. - \$500,000
3419 Wilson Av. - \$785,000

PIEDMONT

5 Alta Av. - \$1,124,000
219 Magnolia - \$882,000

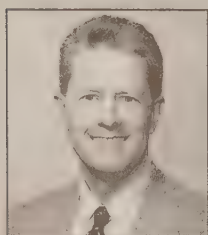
RICHMOND

240 16th St. - \$325,000
634 16th St. - \$310,000
637 16th St. - \$360,000
209 1st St. - \$250,000
651 3rd St. - \$262,000

625 41st St. - \$467,000
400 44th St. - \$510,000
1711 4th St. - \$323,000
682 4th St. - \$368,000
3510 Andrade - \$444,000
1132 Arrowhead - \$602,500
2221 Dunn Av. - \$405,000
1120 Eaglewood - \$535,000
2743 East Ct. - \$266,000

See SALES, Page B10

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510-339-2121 510-339-1004 fax

Open Sunday, March 6 1-4 pm

Marty Baum

(925) 683-3488 or (925) 253-5457

www.PruRealty.com/MartyBaum

- ◆ Spacious lot - over 2900 square feet
- ◆ Remodeled and totally updated
- ◆ 4+ BR/3 BA
- ◆ Hardwood floors
- ◆ Large living room
- ◆ Formal dining
- ◆ Family room
- ◆ Gourmet kitchen
- ◆ Pool and spa
- ◆ Private backyard with views forever!



1307 Brewster Court
El Cerrito, CA

◆ Offered at \$1,125,000 ◆

Exquisite home with unparalleled originality! Situated at the end of a private cul-de-sac, this home offers captivating views of Mt. Tam and the San Francisco Bay! With a great open floor plan and walls of windows overlooking magnificent panoramic views of Mt. Tamaipias, Alcatraz, Angel Island, all three bridges and the night lights of San Francisco, this home offers a serene & peaceful retreat in an upscale neighborhood!

Prudential
California Realty

www.1307brewstercourt.com

51 Moraga Way, Ste. 1
Orinda, CA 94563
www.pruirealty.com

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work with a team who can deliver a great loan program on time.
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Loan Requirements:

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- Rates & Terms subject to change without notice, 660 min FICO
- Equal Housing Lender
- Possible negative amortization



Alex Alexander
510-292-2020
2099 Pleasant Valley
Oakland



Vince Wirthman
510-504-5683
1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley



Gwen Hoople
510-849-1320
2983 College Avenue
Berkeley

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The GRUBB Co
REALTORS

NEW LISTING



1785 Sonoma Avenue, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A charming home in North Berkeley. This Mediterranean sits above the lovely tree-lined street on an oversized level property. Three bedrooms, one and one half baths. Updated kitchen opens level out to sunny, spectacular, private rear garden. Upgraded systems. Close to Solano Avenue and Gourmet Ghettos.

Offered at \$849,000



KAREN STARR
OFFICE: 339.0400/224
starr@grubbco.com
GRUBBCO.COM

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Photo Tours
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This house is located on one third of an acre. The property is zoned for single dwelling, with the city of San Francisco's approval. It features beautiful hardwood floors, a formal dining room, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a spacious kitchen, a sunny bonus room off the laundry area. A country style shabby chic workshop is tucked away in the far corner of this park setting. If you like lots of space, large yards with the possibility to build a second dwelling, this is for you. See virtual tour: <http://www.gaylelangston.com>.



Gayle M. Langston, Realtor
East Bay Relocation Specialist
510.339.9114
www.gaylelangston.com

INTER
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

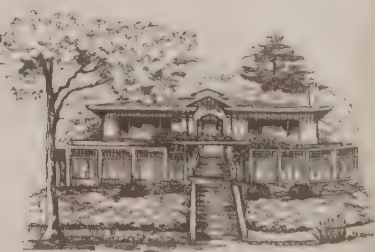
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Certified Relocation Specialist
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Office 925-253-7077
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REALTORS

SOLD • SOLD



1139 The Alameda, North Berkeley

RECENTLY SOLD. Gorgeous two + bedroom Mediterranean built. Originally offered at \$639,000. Sold with multiple offers. Represented the Buyers.



DANA COHEN
OFFICE: 339.0400/348
dcohen@grubbco.com
GRUBBCO.COM

MAISON NOUVEAU

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

5243 COLE STREET
MAXWELL PARK, OAKLAND

Beautiful Maxwell Park, 2+BR/1BA
California Bungalow
Newly remodeled bathroom
Old World details fill this home
which is complimented by an
amazing Southern exposure
Formal dining room, large eat-in
kitchen, and fireplace
Hardwood floors
Sun Room/Office
Large Yard!
1,423 SQ. FT.

OPEN HOUSE
3/6 2-4PM

2701 COLLEGE AVE.

WWW.MAISONNOUVEAU.COM

510.849.9900



OFFERED AT
\$419,000

WWW.NORTHBRAC.COM

Northbrac
Properties

Open Sunday!

Classic North Berkeley Bungalow!



Wonderful traditional details!
Lovely and in very nice condition
— 2+BD/1BA with sunny plus
room and detached home office/
studio. Spacious living room/
formal dining room, big eat-in
kitchen, classic built-ins, multi-
light windows, sunny yard, new
roof in 2004 & lots more!
Great price — \$599,000

This spacious home is located on a
beautiful tree-lined street just one
block from College Avenue. Currently
used as a 5BD/3BA single family resi-
dence, it is a legal duplex with kitchens
on each level and separate entrances.
Recent work includes a new roof, mar-
ble floors, Mediterranean blinds on all
lower level windows and doors, up-
graded plumbing/wiring and lots more!
A unique and remarkable property.

Spacious Rockridge Home With Income!



Offered at \$1,099,000

510/526-4336



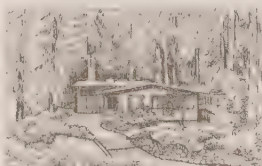
1600 Hopkins Street, Berkeley 94707

RED OAK REALTY | Homes Open Sunday

To sign up for daily email updates or for other Real Estate information, visit www.redoakrealty.com.



BERKELEY - NEW! \$725,000
HOME + INCOME - 1 bedroom cottage and
duplex for income, plus 1,000 sq. ft. of stor-
age, plus off-street parking. Hardwood floors,
upgrades, charm, great location!
1236 Hopkins/1229-31 Rose Open 2-4:30



BERKELEY \$749,000
3+2 - Secluded park-like setting in the hills
surrounded by old-growth redwoods. Spec-
tacular living room with Golden Gate views.
Adjacent 6,000 sq. ft. lot also available.
1196 Keith Avenue Open 2-4



OAKLAND - NEW! \$399,000
PENTHOUSE - Sweet, sun-filled 2 bedroom,
1.5 bath with mini office, two private decks
Spacious, classy yet comfortable, secure park-
ing, fireplace, new carpets
375 Jayne Avenue Open 2-4:30



OAKLAND \$539,000
2+1 - Wonderful Craftsman in the Diamond
district loaded with details. Well-maintained
and updated, newer appliances. Close to
shopping, restaurants, freeway access
3779 Fruitvale Avenue Open 2-4

OAKLAND \$359,000
1/1 - Wonderful end-unit live/work loft in his-
toric 43-unit complex with painted wood floors,
updated bath, secure parking, carpeted sleep-
ing mezzanine, storage unit, more!
730 29th Street #208 Open 2-4

OAKLAND \$369,000
1/1 - Beautiful live/work in historic complex.
Hardwood floors, updated bath, tressed vaulted
ceilings, wall of windows, masonry walls,
sleeping mezzanine, secure parking, more!
730 29th Street #207 Open 2-4

OAKLAND - NEW! \$145,000
COMMERCIAL - Retail commercial space in
43-unit historic live/work complex. Sound-
proofing in ceiling, sink, custom lighting,
concrete slab floor. (Not a live unit)
730 29th Street #109 Open 2-4

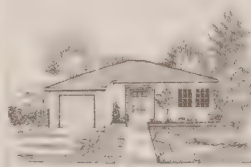
OAKLAND \$199,000
RAW SPACE - Light industrial/commercial
condo with roll-up door (Not a live unit) in
43-unit historic live/work complex. Stationary
tub & 1 assigned parking space. 1,205 sq. ft.
730 29th Street #115 Open 2-4

OAKLAND \$359,000
1/1 - Open floor plan. Super cute. Great al-
ternative to condo. Nice fenced-in front yard
Easy freeway access & Emeryville shops. More
information at www.charliecookproperties.com
5890 Vallejo Street Open 2-4:30

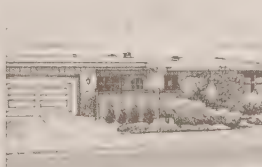
CONCORD - NEW! \$365,000
2/2 - Sun-filled condo in immaculate con-
dition. Washer/dryer in unit, 2-car garage,
vaulted ceilings, 2 large decks, pool. Close
to BART and shopping.
4655 Melody Drive Unit C Open 2-4

[march 6th]

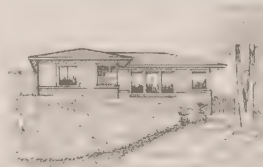
by appointment



BERKELEY \$449,000
2/1 - Cute home with large, level yard in
friendly, convenient neighborhood. Sunny
plus room, big lot, room for expansion.
Move-in condition.



EL CERRITO \$589,000
3/2 - Mid-century classic situated on a cul-
de-sac with sweeping Bay views. Features
include beamed ceilings and hardwood floors
throughout. 1/4 acre parcel. A must see!



KENSINGTON - NEW! \$659,000
2/1 - Spectacular home in serene setting atop
Tilden Park with Canyon views. Vaulted ceil-
ings, gourmet kitchen, sun room, back patio.
Available for showing next week.



OAKLAND \$650,000
3/1 - Space, light and location! Fabulous
remodeled kitchen with skylights, tile &
breakfast nook. Formal dining room, plus
space, architectural details. Private backyard.

MARTINEZ \$779,000
4/2.5 - Spacious, tri-level home. Updated
kitchen with granite counters & travertine
pavers, hardwood floors, fireplace, fresh
paint throughout, beautiful large deck, more!

EL CERRITO \$599,000
3/1 - Wonderful, light-filled mid-century
modern home with San Francisco and Bay
views. Remodeled bathroom, abundant
storage. Marvelous large, level rear garden & patio.

OAKLAND \$495,000
3+2 - Great family home with in-law in a
serene, country setting. Oak floors, fireplace in
living room, Oakland hills views, huge yard &
family room/studio in-law with separate entrance.

OAKLAND \$689,000
3+1 - Charming Adams Point Craftsman
features a formal dining room, hardwood floors,
attached garage, loads of storage all on a large
parcel. Close to Lakeshore Ave & Lake Merritt.

RED OAK REALTY

Home + Income in Great
North Berkeley Neighborhood!



1236 HOPKINS STREET & 1229-31 ROSE STREET
BERKELEY

This triplex has it all: a charming 1 bedroom brown-shingle cottage near Monterey
Market and Cafe Fanny PLUS a duplex behind it for income PLUS 1,000 sq. ft. for
workshop/storage PLUS 4 off-street parking places. Hardwood floors in all units,
many upgrades. Photos at www.redoakrealty.com. LISTED AT \$725,000

ALL UNITS OPEN SUNDAY MARCH 6TH & 13TH 2-4:30PM
AND THURSDAY MARCH 10TH 10AM-1PM

Jeanne Lengsfelder, Realtor®

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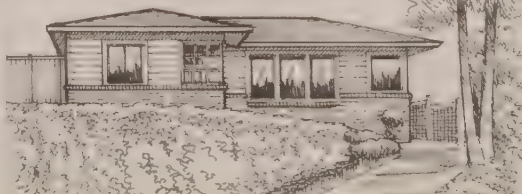
www.redoakrealty.com

1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94707



RED OAK REALTY

Kensington Retreat



268 LOS ALTOS DRIVE, KENSINGTON

Spectacular 2 bedroom home in a serene setting atop Tilden Park with Can-
yon views. Vaulted ceilings, top of the line gourmet kitchen with granite
counters, Viking appliances, cherry cabinets. Sun room, back patio. Photos
and more at www.bobblumberg.com. LISTED AT \$659,000

AVAILABLE FOR SHOWING NEXT WEEK

Bob Blumberg, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-527-0344 WEBSITE: www.BobBlumberg.com

Sales

FROM PAGE B8

713 Legends Pl - \$670,000
 815 Meadow View - \$849,000
 1506 Nevin Plz - \$276,000
 5509 Panama Av - \$497,000
 1709 Pennsylvania - \$500,000
 1400 Pinnacle 215 - \$475,000
 2105 Rheem Av - \$396,500
 33 Seabreeze Dr - \$625,000
 407 Washington Av - \$582,000
 112 Woodstock Ct - \$695,000

SAN LEANDRO

1554 151st Av - \$515,000
 1597 167th Av - \$422,500
 2178 167th Av - \$389,000
 402 Alvarado St - \$705,000
 1209 Betty Av - \$540,000
 884 Broadmoor Bl - \$515,000
 1333 Burkhardt Av - \$593,000
 16629 Cowell St - \$635,000
 15056 Dewey St - \$461,000
 406 Dolores Av - \$600,000
 14399 Doolittle Dr - \$333,000
 2522 Fairway Dr - \$365,000

15268 Hesperian - \$342,500
 2061 Howe Dr - \$377,500
 2385 Lagoon Ct - \$765,000
 710 Lee Av - \$730,000
 894 Lewelling Bl 2 - \$295,000
 1968 Nome St - \$500,000

14978 Portofino Cr - \$640,000
 2565 San Leandro - \$330,000
 2130 Strang Av - \$499,000

See SALES, Page B11

PERFECT VIEW



765 San Diego Rd.
 Berkeley, Ca. 94707
 Offered at \$929,000

Open Sunday 2 to 4:30

Fabulous Berkeley Hills neighborhood with stunning Bay and Bridge views from almost every room. Generous spaces abound and an open airy feeling throughout this lovely home which features 3 or 4 bedrooms and 4 full baths. Even a little reading nook for you to relax in. Enjoy the many upgrades and new windows as well as colorful landscaping. Perfect AU-PAIR on lower level. Across from J. Hinkel Park. A short distance from Solano shops and eateries.



Vikki Landes
 510.869.4225
 vikki@landes.com
 www.vikkilandes.com



COMING SOON



6323 GIRVIN DRIVE
 Offered at \$579,000

This 3 bedroom, 3 bath Montclair home looks out across a canyon, a very serene and peaceful setting. It has a new roof and new skylights, a new master bath and an office which could be used as a fourth bedroom. Close to schools, Montclair Village and freeway access.



Nancy Hinkley, Realtor
 Office: 510.428.0900
 Voice Mail: 510.433.2842
 nancy.hinkley@prurealty.com
 342 Highland Ave., Piedmont



OPEN SUNDAY



3044 Suter Street, Oakland
 Offered at \$425,000

Open Sunday
March 6th
2 - 4:30

Stylishly remodeled 2 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow in lower Dimond district. Plus room/den opens to backyard and deck. Stunning drought-resistant landscaping.



Nancy Hinkley, Realtor
 Office: 510.428.0900
 Voice Mail: 510.433.2842
 nancy.hinkley@prurealty.com
 342 Highland Ave., Piedmont



JUST LISTED

626 Jean Street, Oakland
 OPEN SUNDAY
 2-4:30 pm



*This fabulous condo on Jean
 It truly has to be seen
 From the top of a hill
 Is a view which will thrill
 Come visit and see ... it's a dream!*

2BD, 2BA Listed at \$505,000



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www.MontclairBetterHomes.com

Open Sunday



MONTCLAIR \$1,100,000
 1767 INDIAN WAY
 Come see this custom built 4135 sq ft 2 yr old contemporary. 4+ Bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms, grand formal entry, formal living room, family room, formal dining room, chef's kitchen, and home office; everything you need for modern day living. Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550



Open Sunday



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$619,000
 4501 ELINORA AVENUE
 Just Listed! Charming Cape Cod home in desirable Redwood Heights. Huge lot provides a natural paradise for a yard. Three bedrooms, dining room, home office area, two car attached garage, laundry room and lots of storage. Lovely balcony off master bedroom overlooks yard. Eat-in kitchen, walk to school & shops. See photos and virtual tour at: PatriciaBennett.com 510-482-9000



LAUREL HEIGHTS \$549,000
 3729 WISCONSIN STREET
 Just Listed! Charming Spanish bungalow home in desirable Upper Laurel District. Stunning details include tile fireplace and hardwood floors. Three bedrooms, formal dining room, home office area, family room, laundry room and lots of storage. Lovely balcony off master bedroom overlooks yard. Eat-in kitchen, and partial Bay view. See photos and virtual tour at: PatriciaBennett.com 510-482-9000

LAKE MERRITT \$449,900
 565 Bellevue, Unit 2001
 Impressive Lakeside Hi-Rise condo has a spectacular sweeping view of Lake Merritt and Oakland hills, elegant entry w/doorman, secured garage, gym, pool, club and other amenities. Priceless! Rosemary Greene 510-899-6305

Open Sunday

WALNUT CREEK \$334,900
 1305 Boulevard Way #204
 Upgrades everywhere. Must See Condo. Great Location near downtown W.C. & close to 24 frwy. Tiled deck overlooking pool! Pamela Finney 510-899-6326

By Appointment



MONTCLAIR \$1,290,000
 Almost New Home. Panoramic View, Gourmet Kitchen, Top Quality Appliances, High Ceilings, New Carpet, Home Office & Au-Pair unit w/separate Entrance. 4+ bedrooms 3+ baths. Martha Shin 510-339-4565



CRESTMONT \$895,000
 Panoramic SF bay views abound this 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath crestmont contemporary. Filled with lights, hardwood floors w/inlay detailing, vaulted ceilings, and skylights grace the LR, FR & formal entry. Landscaped front and fenced yard below. Enjoy formal dining with upper deck access, showcasing this home in the clouds! Nahid Nassiri 510-339-4550

By Appointment

CASTRO VALLEY \$699,000
 Gorgeous 3 bedroom/2 bath residence on cul-de-sac w/panoramic upgrades: granite & stainless w/retreat; whirlpool in suite; master bath; surround gas fireplace in family room; windows; 3-year new roof and more! Danville Better Homes 925-937-1234

RIO VISTA \$999,000
 Trilogy Yountville model. 55+ community; never lived in; upgrades: granite & stainless w/center island; wide plank floors; lush carpets; tile & bedrooms; large dining room; office; 2.5 baths; 3-car garage; 2,500 sq. ft. Hurry! Danville Better Homes 925-937-1234

OAKLAND
 Your family will enjoy this 1 bath light-filled Victorian w/updated kitchen & bath, new carpet, soaring ceilings, windows, fresh interior paint and lots of storage space for new home development. Minutes from downtown. Rochelle Anthony 510-339-4550

Commercial

OAKLAND 4900 BANCROFT AVENUE
 2-story mixed use building +/- sq ft. Zoned C-30, 2 kitchens, high ceilings, plan, 5 entrances with stairs. Ken Nwokedi 510-339-4550

Open Sunday
March 6
2:00 to 4:30

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$1,200,000
 715 ROSEMOUNT ROAD
 Amazing Space! Entertain in style & have it all here. Gourmet Kitchen, Family Room, 2 dens, 4 bdms, lg garden for play & bar-b-que. M.J. McConville 510-339-4280



PIEDMONT PINES \$795,000
 26 Mall Court
 Charming traditional, cul-de-sac park-like setting. Hardwood Floors, remodeled kitchen & baths. Very Private. Martha Shin 510-339-4565

IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING A MOVE, PLEASE CALL US!

Sales

FROM PAGE B10
 \$66 Tudor Rd - \$460,000
 14367 Wake Av - \$645,000
 2395 W Av 136th - \$851,000

MAN LORENZO
 536 Heritage Cr - \$551,000
 15800 Via Seco - \$515,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 11
 LOWEST PRICE: \$418,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$875,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$650,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$642,318

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 12
 LOWEST PRICE: \$210,000

HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,200,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$540,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$574,083

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 1
 PRICE: \$415,000

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST PRICE: \$270,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$491,000

MEDIAN PRICE: \$395,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$396,000

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 11
 LOWEST PRICE: \$297,000

HIGHEST PRICE: \$608,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$317,500
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$379,136

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 108

LOWEST PRICE: \$100,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$2,220,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$450,500
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$514,981

See SALES, Page B17

NAPA FARM



4230 Silverado Trail, Napa

Own five Valley floor acres in the heart of wine country. Vineyard, home, guesthouse, pool, paddocks. Big views! One hour from the Bay Area. Shown by appointment.

\$2,250,000

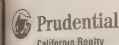
For more information visit my website
www.prurealty.com/ortrunniasar
 or call me direct at (510) 986-9560.

Ortrun Niesar, Realtor
 Prudential California Realty
 2 Tunnel Road
 Berkeley, CA 94705
 (510) 986-9560
 (510) 845-0211



YOU ARE INVITED!
 OPEN HOUSE

SAT., MARCH 5, 2-5 • SUN., MARCH 13, 1-4



COMING SOON IN KENSINGTON

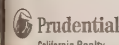


With Spectacular Bay and Golden Gate Views

This classic one-level ranch style home has three bedrooms, two bathrooms, eat-in kitchen, fireplace, and hardwood floors. The living room and dining room open onto a lovely patio and peaceful Japanese style garden. The home is close to the elementary school, library, playground and tennis courts. It is 2088 square feet with an 11,761 square foot lot.

51 Highland Boulevard

Price upon request.



Nancy Taussig
 Realtor
 510-986-9563
Nancy.Taussig@realtor.com



COMING SOON



Trestle Glen / Glenview

This impressive 1920's English Tudor duplex displays the architectural grandeur and fine workmanship of the era. Charming "San Francisco style" flats, original details intact, high ceilings, hardwood floors, fireplaces, elegant formal rooms, terraced rear garden: each unit with two bedrooms, one bath.

Visit www.DoloresThom.com
 for photos & more information and
 to view all active East Bay listings.

Dolores Thom
 Fine Homes Specialist
 510/834-2010 Office
 510/835-6080 VM
 510/290-1218 Cell

GLASS/SABINE
YOUR FINE HOMES SPECIALISTS5851 Chabot Ct.
Offered at \$779,000

OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 6 FROM 1-5

Check our website at www.GlassSabine.com
 for details and a virtual tour of the property.

GlassSabine



Judith Glass
 510.326.7929
Judith@GlassSabine.com



Sheila Sabine
 510.326.5055
Sheila@GlassSabine.com

Charming Rockridge Craftsman

Wonderful, light-filled 3 BR/ 2 BA home in pristine condition located on a cul-de-sac. The main level has a large living room with a fireplace, formal dining room, an irresistible updated kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances and high-end finishes, two bedrooms and a full bath. The large, eat-in kitchen opens to the rear deck and gardens. The upper level features a master suite. The lower level has a full "daylight" basement.

Close to everything - BART, College Avenue shops and restaurants, and local freeways.



Prudential
 California Realty

FEATURED HOMES



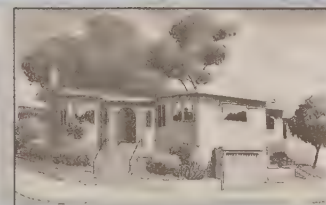
Sunday 2-4:30
 24 York Drive, Piedmont. 3BR, 2BA Contemporary
 One Level w/Large Yard + Pool.
 David & Claire Cunningham
 (510) 428-0900



Sunday 1-5
 5851 Chabot Ct., Oakland. 1st Open! Fabulous 3BR,
 2BA w/Chef's Kitchen, Master Suite & Near BART.
 Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine
 (510) 428-0900



Sunday 2-4:30
 3044 Suter, Oakland. Stylishly updated 2BR, 1BA
 Bungalow w/Den, Deck, Yard.
 Nancy Hinkley
 (510) 428-0900



Sunday 1-4
 2101 13th Ave., Oakland. 3BR, 1BA Light-filled
 home w/updated kitchen.
 CP Yang-Looker/Mimi Falge
 (510) 834-2010

OAKLAND

Sunday 2-4:30
 801 Northvale Road. Fully Renovated 4BR,
 3.5BA English Tudor
 Andreas Furrer
 (510) 339-9290

ALAMEDA

Sunday 2-4
 25 Ironwood. Deluxe Townhouse, views, 2
 Story, HOA, Pool, Large Deck, Looks New!
 Nancy Plattford
 (510) 845-0211

BERKELEY

Sunday 2-4:30
 626 Jean. Bright Modern 2BR, 2BA. Deck,
 fireplace, view, Great Area.
 Natalie Lynch
 (510) 834-2010

Sunday 1-5
 5605 Evergreen. Unique 1BR, 1BA
 Charming on Corner. Level Lot.
 Erik Johnson
 (510) 339-9290

CASTRO VALLEY

Sunday 2-4:30
 127 Frisbie, Oakland. Charming 3BR, 1BA
 Mediterranean with fireplace & hardwood
 floors.
 Tammy Bobb
 (510) 339-9290

SAN LEANDRO

Sunday 2-4:30
 576 5th St. 3BR, 2BA. 115/4500 Sq. Ft.
 Great Condition.
 Ernest Villafraña
 (510) 834-2010

OAKLAND

Sunday 2-4:30
 1 W. Embarcadero, Oakland. 1BR, 1BA
 Updated condo in Portobello complex.
 Nancy Hinkley
 (510) 428-0900

ALAMEDA

Sunday 1-4
 2 Fletcher Ct. 4BR 2.5BA. Ad#1359.
 Aki Taguchi
 (510) 243-3760
 (510) 758-5637

BERKELEY

Sunday 2-4:30
 765 San Diego. Spacious Traditional
 3+BR/4BA View Home.
 Vikki Landes
 (510) 339-9290

CASTRO VALLEY

Sunday 1-5
 19100 Crest Ave. #3. 2BR, 1BA. Fireplace,
 view - Resort Living!
 Arthur White
 (510) 868-1446

SAN LEANDRO

Sunday 1-4
 1150 Coburn Court. New upgrades,
 Showcase. 3BR, 2BA.
 Roxanne Wong
 (510) 834-2010

Thinking
 about a
 career in
 Real Estate?

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EL SOBRANTE

Sat 1-4 & Sun 2-4:30
 782 Santa Maria Rd. 3BR, 3BA, 2
 Fireplaces.
 Chandra Gardeen
 (510) 868-1529

LOT FOR SALE

N. Berkeley Lot
 Downslope Lot. Online Disclosures.
 Million \$ Neighborhood.
 David/Candice
 (510) 868-1400

EL SOBRANTE

Sunday 1-5
 790 Alhambra. Cute 2BR, 1BA w/ upgrades.
 Laina Casillas
 (510) 527-9800

Free Home

Sunday 2-4:30
 48 Hill Road, Berkeley. Open spaces
 with panoramic views, from
 3+BR/3.5BA Contemporary.
 Heidi Marchesotti
 (510) 339-9290

ALAMEDA

Sunday 2-4:30
 5895 Grizzly Peak, Oakland.
 Spectacular 4BR, 3.5BA. Cutting Edge.
 New One of a Kind Construction.
 Heidi Marchesotti
 (510) 339-9290

OAKLAND

Sunday 2-4:30
 7112 Marlborough Terrace, Oakland.
 Sophisticated 3BR, 3.5BA
 Mediterranean.
 Heidi Marchesotti
 (510) 339-9290

Looking for an exciting
 and challenging career?

FREE TRAINING

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 800-499-5551

open home virtual album

ALAMEDA BERKELEY REGIONAL PLEASANTON EL CERRITO EL SOBRANTE OAKLAND SAN LEANDRO PIEDMONT RICHMOND
 510-339-9290 510-339-9290 510-339-9290 510-339-9290 510-339-9290 510-339-9290 510-339-9290 510-339-9290

NEW LISTING

**651 Norvell Ave., El Cerrito**

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This handsome Berkeley style traditional home has three bedrooms, two baths and exudes a warm, friendly, inviting feeling throughout. It is conveniently located just a few blocks from BART and the plaza.

Offered at \$569,000

John Stasky & Co.
(510) 525-8800



New Listing!

2448 Prince St., Berkeley



This charming Victorian bungalow is ideally located near Elmwood shops, Alta Bates Hospital and U.C. Berkeley. Originally a 3 bedroom, a wall was removed to make 2 bedrooms into one large, back bedroom. It could be converted back, if desired.

Its amenities include:
-Spacious Living Room
-Sunny Kitchen
-1 and a half baths
-Off Street Parking
-Formal Dining w/plc
-Laundry Area
-Fenced Yard
-Great Neighborhood

Priced at \$685,000

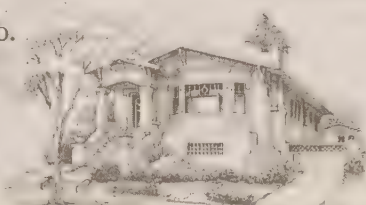
Tim Cannon, Anne Politeo
(510) 527-5500



BERKELEYHOME
REAL ESTATE & INVESTMENT

www.BerkeleyHome.com
1575 Hopkins St. (corner of Monterey)
Berkeley, California

The GRUBB Co.

**62 Entrada Avenue, Oakland**

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Sweetest Craftsman in perfect cul-de-sac location. One half block to Fenton's Ice Cream, Piedmont Avenue shops and restaurants. Beautiful interior with lots of classic wood and stained glass details. Three + bedrooms, one bath. Sunny level garden.

Offered at \$638,000



ED KUO
OFFICE: 339.0400/222
Cell: 510.919.0707
kuo@grubbco.com
GRUBBCO.COM

Visit GRUBBCO.COM for
Photo Tours
of this and other current listings.

6038 Bernhard, Richmond View

This well maintained home is located near Wildcat Canyon hiking trails and a short commute to I-80, and the San Rafael Bridge.

Its amenities include:
-2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
-Updated Kitchen
-Large Deck
-New Roof
-Canyon Views
-Off Street Parking

Priced at \$450,000

For more information:
Call **Tim Q. Cannon or Anne Politeo**
(510) 527-5500



BERKELEYHOME

REAL ESTATE & INVESTMENT
www.BerkeleyHome.com
1575 Hopkins St. (corner of Monterey)
Berkeley, California



Prudential California Realty



1117 Miller Avenue, Berkeley

Offered at \$849,900

Contact Agent: Anne Hill
Office: (925) 253-5473
Cell: (925) 324-5701



Prudential
California Realty

Spacious Home Near BART

2207 Sacramento Street, Berkeley
Cross streets Allston and Bancroft



The generous size and unique floor plan of this house will inspire fantasy, creativity and designer's talent of the future owners.
Do you work at home? Enjoy separate office quarters and private living areas!
Need a live-in helper? Here is an extra room by room!
Looking for an income property? Can be converted by room!
2 generations living together? In home choice!
Endless choices for creative mind!

- 6 bedrooms / 2 baths
- Living room with a fireplace
- Formal dining and family rooms
- 2 car off-street parking.

Offered at \$629,000

Open Sun. March 6 from 1-4:30 pm

Elena Stone

Broker Associate
(510) 435-6229

www.elenasstone.com

RE/MAX
EXECUTIVE



4321 ESSEX ST.



Newly upgraded, this three bedroom, two full bath home features a living room and dining room with high ceilings a spacious, light-filled eat-in kitchen, family room, office space, guest room and laundry. Near transportation, freeway access, Bay street and Emeryville shopping.

Open House

Sunday, March 6
2:00-4:00
&
Sunday March 13
2:00-4:00



VICTOR FIER
REALTOR

6211 La Salle Ave. • Oakland
510.339.8900 • Cell
510.332.8852

EMERYVILLE

OFFERED AT \$499,000

HERITAGE REAL ESTATE
FINE HOMES & ESTATES
HeritageRealEstate.com

Fine Home

OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30 PM

48 Hill Road, Berkeley
Offered at \$3,200,000

Open Spaces and Panoramic views from this 3+3/5 Custom 2 story Sanctuary with quality touches and accents throughout.



OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30 PM

5895 Grizzly Peak
Offered at \$2,395,000

Truly spectacular one of a kind 4+3/5 new construction. An extraordinary 4500 sq. ft. home featuring a gourmet kitchen with state of the art appliances and floor to ceiling panoramic view windows throughout.



OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30 PM

7112 Marlborough Terrace
Offered at \$2,125,000

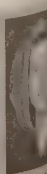
Sophisticated Mediterranean 3/3.5 Masterpiece with elegant master suite, spectacular designer kitchen and imported finishes.

Presented by Heidi Marchesotti, #1 Top Producer 2004

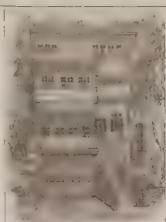
(510) 387-7865 Cell • (510) 869-4243 Voice Mail

See more listings at
www.homesbyheidi.com

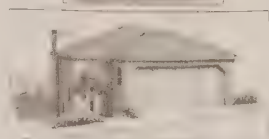
Prudential
California Realty



6663 Thornhill Drive
Originally offered at \$1,195,000
Represented Buyers'



4369 Terrabella Way
Originally offered at \$695,000
Represented Sellers'



Norm Robinow
510-339-4733
norm.robinow@cbtnorcal.com
californiamoves.com



COMING SOON!



5601 Snake Road, Oakland

Lovely 3+ bedroom, 3 bath home with separate structure that can be used as a guest house or home office. Home features a gourmet kitchen, large level backyard with courtyard too. Great location close to Village. A rear find!

Offered at \$799,000



Judy Ackerman

510.339.4749

email: judy.ackerman@cbtnorcal.com



Piedmont Side of Montclair

OPEN SUNDAY
MARCH 6
1-5 PM



TWILIGHT
TOUR HOUSE
MARCH 10
5:30-7:30 PM

6222 Bullard Drive

Elegant and Dramatic Mid Century Architecture

Level in and close by Montclair Village, this stylish 3+ bedroom 3 bath home offers a peaceful and serene setting. This sophisticated home blends the harmonies of bamboo floors, spacious living area with vaulted ceiling and wall of glass, large fireplace, and a dramatic artists' mural in bath. A winding staircase goes to family room with built-ins and fireplace and opens to a magical yard that winds down slate walkway to private patio and gazebo. PREPARE TO BE IMPRESSED!

Offered at \$1,249,000



Donna Conroy 510-339-4723

View photos @ www.donnaconroy.com



COLDWELL BANKER

www.CaliforniaMoves.com

Berkeley 510.486.1495 • Oakland 510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

Berkeley \$7,250,000
BR 5.5 BA This historic estate includes a second house w/3BR/BA, 2 guest cottages & tennis court.
Kim & Barbara Marienthal 510.486.1495



Berkeley Hills \$1,088,000
BR 3 BA Quality! Newly renovated, FDR, FP, EIK, HDWD floors, Tranquil & Sophisticated!
Terry Anthony 510.339.4700

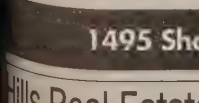
Berkeley \$950,000
Units - Some Hardwood floors, close to freeway and shopping. California "Noni" Robinson 510.339.4700



Montclair \$789,000
BR 2.5 BA Close to Schools and Village, Formal LR, Formal LR, Large Traditional LR, Formal LR.
Nancy Maloney 510.339.4700



Alhambra Hills \$749,000
BR 2.5 BA This lovely home with spectacular views of the Alhambra Canyon boasts an open floor plan with frpl, hrdwd floors, fam r & 2 car gar.
Claudia Bowman 510.339.4700



BY APPOINTMENT



Rockridge \$599,000
2 BR 2.5 BA Desirable Rockridge Townhome. Shows like a model home. Soaring ceilings, fireplace, FAB!
Donna Conroy 510.339.4700

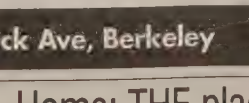


Berkeley \$585,000
2 BR 1 BA Tri-level Tudor townhouse in historic Brittany Village. Remodeled Kitchen, patio, garage.
Kim Marienthal 510.486.1495

Oakland \$375,000
3 BR 1 BA A fixer on a huge lot. Consider the possibilities. 1 bath is not permitted.
Reva Tolbert 510.339.4700



Piedmont \$1,695,000
65 Wyngaard Ave. Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3.5 BA Traditional w/great architectural details, great indoor-outdoor living, sunny back yard
Joan Duffield 510.339.4700



OPEN HOUSES



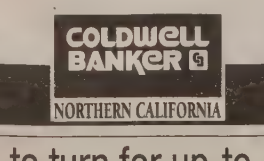
Crocker Highlands \$1,550,000
1079 Ashmount Ave. Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3 full BA + 2 half Fabulous with private park-like yard, tastefully renovated, light-filled, Old World Charm.
Judy Ackerman 510.339.4700



Oakland \$1,295,000
5176 Golden Gate Ave Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3 BA Tuscan styling & Bay views. Exquisite home w/ frpl dr, fam rm, office, gourmet kit & lev yd
Darcy Diamantine & Ellen Lancaster 510.339.4700



Piedmont Side Montclair \$1,249,000
6222 Bullard Sun 1 - 5
3 BR 3 BA Dramatic & Sophisticated mid-century jewel! Vaulted ceiling, glass wall, elegance abounds!
Donna Conroy 510.339.4700



OPEN HOUSES

Oakmore \$779,950
1929 Oakview Dr. Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3 BA Spectacular Views on both levels! Spacious rooms.
Julie Joyce 510.339.4700

Pinole \$629,000
2840 Poulos Ct. Sun 1:30 - 4:30
3 BR 2.5 BA Hill home w/views! 1,900+ sq ft on 16,000+ sq ft lot. Mstr bdrm retreat, frplc, Must see!
Gregg Lustig 510.486.1495

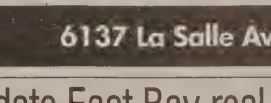


North Oakland \$628,000
831 55th Street Sun 1 - 5
2 homes/1 lot FAB! 2BR/1BA home w/ extra space. 1BR/1BA cottage = Good income/shared living.
Donna Conroy 510.339.4700



Alameda \$575,000
424 Lincoln Ave. Sat/Sun 1 - 4
3 BR 1 BA Craftsman Bungalow. Spacious, hdwd, DR, attic, lrg yrd, charm & orig. details. A must see!
Laura Arechiga 510.486.1495

Pinole \$495,900
1278 Hazel Sun 2 - 4
3 BR 2 BA VIEW VIEW VIEW! Unique bay front home w/large lot & garage. Ready to create your dream home.
Michelle Holm 510.486.1495



OPEN HOUSES



Redwood Heights \$505,000
3700 Virden Ave Sat/Sun 2 - 5
2 BR 1 BA Darling home with sweeping SF/Bay view. With fp, HDWF, lg kit w/ dining area & 2 car gar.
Nader Davari & CJ Boydston 510.339.4700

Laurel \$489,000
3726 Rhoda Ave Sun 2 - 4:30
Bungalow charm with built ins & frpl. 2++ bed 2 Ba. On a large lot w/ extraordinary gardens.
Claudia Bowman 510.339.4700

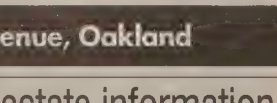
Temescal \$429,000
3815 Ruby Street Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 2 BA Affordable starter home. W/ character & detail. Rear addition, fenced yard & det. workshop!
Jeffrey Neidleman & Leslie Wei 510.339.4700

Berkeley \$395,000
1721 Berkeley Way 2 Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 1 BA Convenient location nr shops, transport, downtown & UC. Lwr level w/stor. & good flr plan.
Cheryl Cahn 510.486.1495

LOTS
Montclair \$650,000
New listing on Thorndale Dr. Set of 4 platted lots. Development opportunity! Call us!
Peter & Ellen Nicolopoulos 510.339.4700

Montclair \$394,000
Huge land parcel! Top of Sobrante Rd. Area of upscale new construction! Call us for info.
Peter & Ellen Nicolopoulos 510.339.4700

Redwood Heights \$195,000 ea.
Back on market. 2 Lots - side by side. Each 5000 S.F. plus.
Between 4710 & 4724 Fair Ave. Oakland
Terry Anthony 510.339.4700



1495 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley

6137 La Salle Avenue, Oakland



Hills Real Estate & Home: THE place to turn for up-to-date East Bay real estate information

DON'T MISS THIS WEEK'S OPEN HOME GUIDE ON B19.

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING IN MONTCLAIR

OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2-4:30PM



Nancy Chew

510.338.1342

11 Conrad Court, Oakland
Offered at \$675,000

Ranch-style home designed and built in the 1950s. Heart redwood siding, recreation room, and views of surrounding oaks and pines. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Hardwood floors. Redwood deck and level yard area. 2 car attached garage.

www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING ~ OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2-4:30PM



6918 Thornhill Drive, Oakland



Donna Costella

510.338.1355

As you approach the Japanese garden and covered courtyard, you are transported to the tranquil environment of this special Montclair home. Glass doors and windows are abundant and access the outdoor spaces and maximize the western exposure and bay views. Asian details and bamboo floors are combined with 50's architecture. All the bedrooms are on one level with a media/play room and bath downstairs. A wonderful back garden and decks provide more outdoor living. 3BR/3BA, including master suite, eat-in kitchen.

Offered at \$749,000

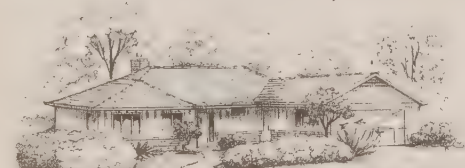
www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING IN REDWOOD HEIGHTS

OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2-5PM



- 4 Bedrooms • 3 baths
- 3 fireplaces
- Approximately 2,600 sq. ft.

4509 Ellinora Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$719,000



Diane Earl McCan

510.338.1352

REDWOOD HEIGHTS & LAUREL DISTRICT SPECIALIST

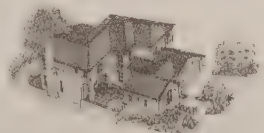
www.dianemccan.com

www.pacunion.com

DEE'S UPDATE



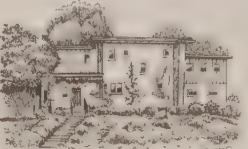
6351 Contra Costa Road, Oakland
SOLD - 6 Days, 4 offers
Offered at \$1,315,000
Represented The Seller



1033 Alvarado Road, Oakland
PENDING
Offered at \$1,595,000
Represented The Seller



430 Livorna Road, Alamo
COMING SOON
Offered at \$2,395,000



4400 St. Andrews Road, Oakland
PENDING
Offered at \$949,000
Represented The Seller



Dee Knowland
510.338.1318

www.DeeKnowlandRealty.com
www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

COMING SOON IN LAUREL DISTRICT

OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 13 & 20



Charming home located in a quiet desirable area. Private two bedrooms on one level. Spacious kitchen with adjoining breakfast room. Attached one-car garage. Rear and side yards with mature landscaping and views.



4420 Hyacinth Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$539,000

Diane Earl McCan

510.338.1352

www.dianemccan.com

REDWOOD HEIGHTS & LAUREL DISTRICT SPECIALIST

www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING IN EL CERRITO

OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2-4:30PM



First open. Beautiful with views. 2 bedrooms. BART. Close to 3+ bedrooms.



Jack McPhail

510.338.1336

6730 Cutting Boulevard
Offered at \$625,000

www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING IN UPPER ROCKRIDGE

OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2-4:30PM

100 Buckeye Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$699,000

Upper Rockridge contemporary with bay views, hardwood floors, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, formal dining, plus separate 1 bedroom in-law. Close to Hillcrest School and markets.



Wendy Gardner-Ferrari

510.338.1303

www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING IN ALBANY

OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2-4:30PM



Spanish style with quality, charm and warmth. Expanded beautifully integrating original architecture with a master suite and family room. Featuring Hardwood floors throughout, French doors, coved ceilings and built-in cabinetry. This home has a level out magical garden with fruit trees, blooming wisteria and mature landscaping plus a backyard patio. Formal living room and dining room, remodeled kitchen and separate family room highlight this home, along with four bedrooms and two and a half updated bathrooms. All this and convenience too close to shopping and BART.



1240 Brighton Avenue, Albany
Offered at \$899,000

Nancy Rothman

510.339.2169 x6209

www.NancyRothman.com

www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW MONTCLAIR LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2-4:30PM



5708 Florence Terrace, Oakland
Offered at \$699,000

Situated on a secluded sylvan site, this charming 3+BR/2BA bungalow has been tastefully updated and remodeled by the current owners. The sunny deck and garden are level out from the spacious family room. Many of the features are ideal for today's lifestyle: the remodeled cook's kitchen, a private master suite with a charming plus room office or nursery, and an ideal location near shopping and commute.

Leslie Avant
510.338.1341



Christian Downer
510.338.1340

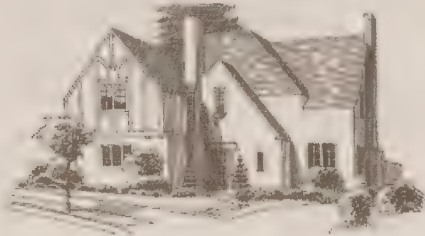
NEW LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2-5PM



3858 Fruitvale Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$559,000

This lovely Tudor is situated on a terraced lot in the Upper Dimond district. Built in 1935, its arched windows and original fireplace give this home a feel of elegance. The split-level floor plan features two bedrooms, one bath, formal dining room, updated kitchen and hardwood floors. A plus space with half bath, makes for a perfect home office. French doors open to a private, landscaped deck and spacious upslope yard.

NEW CROCKER HIGHLANDS LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 6 & 13, 2-5PM



1021 Hubert Road, Oakland
Offered at \$945,000

First time on market! Lovely, beautifully maintained Tudor on one of Crocker's most coveted streets. 4+ bedrooms, 3 baths. Living room with marble fireplace and formal dining room, each with French doors to a spectacular deck. Attached garage with indoor access. A rare opportunity!

Ann Nichols
510.338.1319

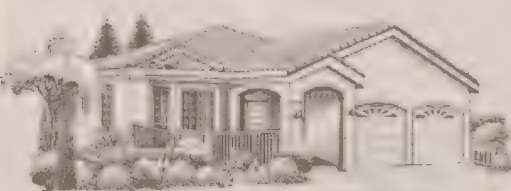


Sandi Klemmer
510.338.1314



Dick Cohen
510.338.1308

NEW LISTING ~ 4 BRIDGE VIEWS OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2-4:30PM



4309 Terrabella Way, Oakland
Offered at \$949,000

Dazzling views of the Golden Gate and all over the Bay are just one of the highlights of this chic Mediterranean home! A spacious floor plan includes a wonderful master retreat with fireplace and deck, and the popular kitchen/family room combination. A fabulous home for entertaining, relaxing and living. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Formal living room with fireplace, formal dining room. Decks, yard and extra developable space.

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30

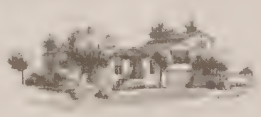
OAKLAND \$949,000
4309 TERRABELLA WY.
New Listing! Dazzling 4-bridge views! Chic 4BR/3BA Mediterranean. Master retreat w/ fireplace & deck. Kitchen/family room combo. Formal dining, decks, yard & extra developable space. Sandi Klemmer x1314 & Dick Cohen x1308



MONTCLAIR \$1,875,000
4390 GWIN RD.
Dynamic custom contemporary in spectacular setting. Located at the end of a cul-de-sac approx. 40,000 sq. ft. lot. Sparkling San Francisco Bay & serene hill views. 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 4100+/- sq. ft. Teri Carlisle x1305



CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$945,000
1021 HUBERT RD. (Open 2-5)
New Listing! First time on market! Lovely Tudor on one of Crocker's most coveted streets. 4+BR/3BA. Formal living and dining rooms, each with French doors to a spectacular deck. Front & rear gardens. A rare opportunity! Ann Nichols x1319



PIEDMONT \$1,475,000
4400 BOBBITT WY. (Open Sat & Sun)
Enjoy breathtaking expansive views of San Francisco Bay from this stylish contemporary home with four bedrooms and four baths. Private, beautiful setting at the end of a cul-de-sac. Rosalie Woods x1324

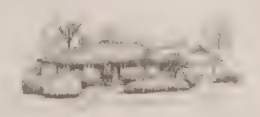


ALBANY \$899,000
1240 BRIGHTON AVE.
New Listing! Spanish style w/quality, charm & warmth. Expanded beautifully integrating original architecture w/master suite & family room. Level out to magical gardens & mature landscaping. 4BR/2.5BA. Leslie Easterday x1363



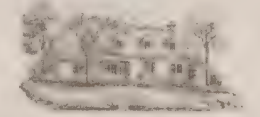
OAKLAND HILLS \$724,999
4616 REDWOOD RD.
Stunning, tri-level Mediterranean style townhouse. Wooded views. Secluded flagstone patio. 3BR/2.5BA including large master suite w/designer master bath. Maple hardwood floors, formal dining, slate fireplace. Many upgrades. Nancy Moore x1302

MONTCLAIR \$675,000
11 CONRAD CT.
New Listing! Ranch-style home designed and built in the 1950s. Heart redwood siding, recreation room, 2BR/2BA, hardwood floors. Views of surrounding oaks & pines. Deck & level yard area. Nancy Chew x1342



ROCKRIDGE \$589,000
400 60th ST.
New Listing! This quintessential Rockridge bungalow abounds in traditional architectural detail. Newer kitchen & bath, featuring a wonderful Wedgewood stove & claw foot tub. Newly fenced & landscaped garden/patio. Super location! Steven Bassatti x1379

EL CERRITO \$625,000
6730 CUTTING BLVD.
New Listing! Beautiful Cape Cod with views of hills and city. Two blocks to BART, close to schools. 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths, hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen & family room. Large corner lot. Jack McPhail x1336

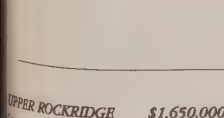


UPPER DIMOND \$559,000
3858 FRUITVALE AVE. (Open 2-5)
New Listing! Lovely & elegant 2+BR/1.5BA Tudor on a terraced lot. Arched windows, original fireplace, formal dining room, updated kitchen. French doors to a landscaped deck & spacious upslope yard. Christian Downer x1340

MONTCLAIR \$619,000
1534 MOUNTAIN BLVD.
Mid-century 2BR/1BA beauty. Walls of glass overlooking tranquil views. Hardwood floors, updated kitchen, generous front deck & back patio. Great location near Montclair Village. Jennie A. Flanigan x1354



PIEDMONT \$1,295,000
114 INDIAN RD.
This spacious home is situated on a quiet cul-de-sac and offers beautiful hill views in a private setting. Recently remodeled, it provides a convenient floor plan with five bedrooms, three baths, and a fabulous kitchen. Georgia Cornell x1325



MONTCLAIR \$749,000
6918 THORNHILL DR.
New Listing! Special 3BR/3BA home w/beautiful entry garden & covered courtyard. Asian details & bamboo floors are combined with 50's architecture. Wonderful back garden & decks. Media/play room, eat-in kitchen, bay views. Donna Costella x1355



MONTCLAIR \$699,000
5708 FLORENCE TERR.
New Listing! Inviting & charming 3+BR/2BA bungalow surrounded by a secluded park-like site. Sunny deck & garden level out from spacious family room. Master suite w/charming plus room, remodeled cook's kitchen. Ideal location. Leslie Avant x1341

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$699,000
100 BUCKEYE AVE.
New Listing! 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath contemporary. Bay views, hardwood floors, formal dining room, plus separate 1 bedroom in-law. Close to Hillcrest school and markets. Wendy Gardner-Ferrari x1303



MONTCLAIR \$599,000
5959 BALBOA DR.
Tahoe style retreat. Vaulted ceilings. Living room with wall of glass. Updated kitchen. Wrap-around deck, level yard, spa. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, loft, home office. Dog run. Ann Nichols x1319

NORTH OAKLAND \$525,000
611 57th ST.
New Listing! Craftsman gem with many desirable features. Hardwood floors, built-in, box beam ceilings, 2BR/1BA, plus room, attached garage, and a recording studio. Great yard for entertaining. Tom Nemeth x1381



BY APPOINTMENT

COMING SOON

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,650,000
New Listing! Contemporary in desirable neighborhood. Under construction; spring completion. Generous spaces with plenty of natural light. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, office. David Schwab x1331

RIDGEMONT \$1,280,000
Prime lot with inspirational Bay & SF views. Included 1/2+ acre parcel located at the end of a cul-de-sac. Spectacular home design by Philip Perkins. Minutes to Highway 13. David Schwab x1331

SEQUOYAH HILLS \$949,000
Stunning 3 year old contemporary. 3BR/2.5BA, master suite with sitting room, 2 fireplaces. Spacious open floor plan with high ceilings. Corner lot with lovely vistas. Very special property! Dee Knowland x1318

BERKELEY \$924,000
Set on a sunny promontory, this artful renovation offers easy informality with a Latin flair. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths including wonderful master retreat. Fine details & finishes. Glorious light & views. Gini Erck x1339

ALAMO \$2,395,000
Gated magnificent traditional with 5BR/4.5BA on a huge level lot. Exquisitely designed with fabulous finishes. Limestone flooring, beautiful crown moldings. Approximately 5036 sq. ft. Large rear yard. Dee Knowland x1318

LAUREL \$539,000
Charming 2BR/1BA home on desirable street. Spacious eat-in kitchen w/adjointing laundry room. Attached garage. Wonderful rear & side yards w/lovely mature landscaping and patio area. Diane E. McCan x1352

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REAL ESTATE

NEW LISTING

1652 Visalia Avenue, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Charming light-filled Mediterranean in wonderful Thousand Oaks. Lovely views, cathedral ceiling and many classic details. Surrounded by lovely serene gardens. Spacious two bedrooms, one bath close to Solano Avenue and Colusa Circle shops and entertainment.

Offered at \$649,000

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Space Reservations: **MONDAY, 12 Noon**

Copy Requiring Review: **MONDAY, 12 Noon**

Copy & Artwork: **TUESDAY, 12 Noon**

Open Home Guide: **WEDNESDAY, 12 Noon**

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DIABLO **ALAMEDA**

DIABLO **PRICE UPON REQUEST**
Approx. 5.5 ac. fronting historic Diablo Lake includes personal dock. Lighted tennis and sport court. Pool/Spa. 5 BR / 3.5 BA. Master en-suite. 2 BR / 1 BA guest wing.

ALAMEDA **\$2,425,000**
Gorgeous Barrington Woods Alameda home. BR/6BA home. 5073 sq. ft. built in 2004.

Janet Sweeney & Susanna Schlendorf (925) 314-1500
Jillynn Parker (925) 314-1500

ALAMEDA **ALAMEDA**

1012 Walnut Street **\$950,000**
4 Unit Victorian on the edge of the Gold Coast. Historic 4plex. 2-2 bedroom & 2-1 bedroom units. All with lovely detail and hardwood floors. 1-2 bedroom vacant. Perfect for owner's use.

1418 5th Street **\$899,000**
Utterly charming 3 unit Victorian close to everything. Great income. Adorable yard with high ceilings throughout. Details galore. One very special 1 bedroom unit vacant.

Nick Lavrov/Andrea Gordon
Andrea Gordon (510) 339-8900

DANVILLE **\$4,150,000**
45 Acres above Crow Canyon Country Club. Tentative map for 8 lots. Land requires road easement across another parcel of land not included in price. Beautiful lots looking over valley.

LIVERMORE **\$1,290,000**
Rare zoned light industrial. Permitted 1,900 sq. ft. shop in back 3 phased wired. 2/1 house in front, non permitted 1/1 conv. det. garage.

Mel Copland (510) 339-8900 **Dale Turner** (925) 455-0505

LIVERMORE PENDING **\$895,000** **DANVILLE** **\$625,000**
Beautifully expanded and renovated home on the Historic South-side! Built circa 1910, this home features gleaming hardwood and tile flooring. Restored double-hung windows. Dramatic molding, Jacuzzi tubs. Large covered front porch. Rear deck. Mature trees and wonderfully landscaped yards.

Jennifer Malakoff (925) 455-0505 **Becky Sargent** (925) 314-1500

DANVILLE **\$535,000** **PITTSBURG** **\$497,000**
Beautifully remodeled townhouse within walking distance to downtown Danville. Don't miss.

Paul Harris (925) 314-1500 **Francisco Ortiz** (925) 314-1500

FREMONT **\$525,950** **OAKLAND** **\$259,000**
Wonderful 2 BR / 2.5 BA in desirable Liberty Commons. Tri-level townhouse with 2 car attached garage. Tile counters and maple cabinets in kitchen, custom paint, wood shutters, blinds, corner unit, refrig. to stay as is.

Kara Diaz (925) 455-0505 **Lisa Spencer** (510) 339-8900

FOR SALE WITH OWNER
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\$6,950
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- 317 Sand Beach Rd., Alameda 3602/2BA 1489 Sq. Ft. 9 years new. Open Sun 11-12
- 100 Orr Rd., Alameda 3802/2BA 1489 Sq. Ft. 9 years new. Open Sun 11-12
- 2142 Santa Clara, Alameda 4-503BA updated Victorian
- 22 Bannister Way, Alameda - Pending 2802/2BA dual fireplaces, cozy home
- 1605 104th Ave., Oakland - Pending 4 large 280/1BA units, well-maintained 2802
- 1964 42nd Ave., Oakland - Pending Cozy 280/1BA upgrades, views, ing. lot
- 1713 Nason St., Alameda Sold 10 days, \$17,000 higher than asking
- 1927 Gaspar Dr., Oakland Sold 35,000 higher than asking

John Chang
Realtor 2543 Santa Clara Ave #C, Alameda / www.helpusell.com

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Michele Manzone Open Sun 2-4 510-339-8900

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2611 Mira Vista Dr. 2BR Upstairs w/ remodeled Bath, Formal Dining Room, Large eat-in kitchen & gorgeous refinished hardwood flrs. 1 large roomy 2nd kitchen and full bath, lovely landscaped backyard w/ pergola & patio, garage w/ interior access, clear Pest report, new interior paint.

www.geristern.com Open Sun 1:30-4 510-339-8900

STUNNING CONTEMPORARY IN THE HILLS WITH VIEWS
1315 Rifle Range 5 BR 3.5 BA. Almost 4000 sq. ft., Excellent condition. Huge living room and family rooms with fireplaces, full legal main level 2 car attached garage, remodeled kitchen and baths, new cherrywood floors, new roof, paint and clear Termite report. Huge Master suite. Don't miss this!

www.carladellazoppa.com Open Sun. 1-4 510-339-8900

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RICHMOND VIEW GEM!
5011 Esmond 2BR 1BA Updated kitchen, great floor plan, w/ hardwood floors, formal dining area, lovely refinished oak hardwood flrs, huge living room and an attached garage. Move-in-condition!

www.cynthiaburke.com Open Sun. 1-4 510-339-8900

DISTINGUISHED HOME OF THE WEEK

7009 Broadway Terrace
Offered At: \$669,000
Open Sun 2-4:30PM

Helen Nicholas (510) 339-8900

ALAMEDA **\$950,000** **ALAMEDA** **\$899,000**
1012 Walnut St. 4 Unit. Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30PM
Nick Lavrov/Andrea Gordon (510) 339-8900
1418 5th St. 3 Units. Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30PM
Andrea Gordon (510) 339-8900

Open Homes

MONTCLAIR **\$669,000** **OAKLAND** **\$540,000**
7009 Broadway Terr. 3 BR/2.5BA. Open Sun 2:00-4:30PM
Helen Nicholas (510) 339-8900
3333 Georgia St. 4 BR/2BA. Open Sun 1-4:30PM
Mel Copland (510) 339-8900

EMERYVILLE **\$499,000**
4321 Essex 3BR/2BA. Open Sun 2:00-4:30PM
Victor Fierro (510) 339-8900

OAKLAND HILLS/ UPPER ROCKRIDGE
*\$850,000-1,100,000
Family with small children seeks traditional home with level garden and views of the bay.
Kate Castle (510) 339-8900

Buyers' Corner

LAMORINDA/WALNUT CREEK ***\$700,000-900,000**
Professional couple seeking home in tranquil setting with outdoor living potential and proximate to walking trails and BART.
Catherine Truelove (510) 339-8900

BERKELEY ***Up to \$2 Million**
Apartment complex with multi-units, close to UC. For qualified investor.
Mary Hanna (510) 339-8900

*All Buyers Are Pre-approved

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House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section first

ales

W PAGE B11

DIAMOND
TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$882,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,124,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$1,003,000

UNION
TOTAL SALES: 24
LOWEST PRICE: \$250,000

HIGHEST PRICE: \$849,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$467,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$458,042

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 24
LOWEST PRICE: \$295,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$851,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$515,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$521,188

SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$515,000

HIGHEST PRICE: \$551,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$533,000

This list is provided by California Resource, a real estate information company that obtains the information from the County Recorder's Office. Neither California Resource nor this newspaper guarantees the completeness or accuracy of the information. All questions should be directed to CalResource@aol.com. Call 209-365-6863.

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AWARDED BY THE ALAMEDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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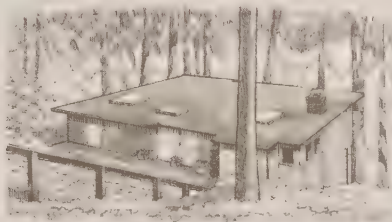


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Estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$359,650 loan amount. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years and is subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$359,650 is approximately \$2,128 and includes points. Homeowners insurance is required. Estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$359,650 loan amount. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 15 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment on jumbo loan amount is approximately \$2,915 and includes points. Homeowners insurance is required. Estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$500,000 loan amount. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment on jumbo loan amount is approximately \$3,915 and includes points. Homeowners insurance is required.

the GRUBB



1326 Queens Road, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. North Berkeley tree-top aerie. Sophisticated contemporary jewel with Golden Gate and Bay views. This romantic hideaway is located near the UC Campus and Tilden Park and features floor to ceiling windows, decks and a private patio.

Offered at \$549,000



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What really makes Claudia stand out in the highly competitive real estate industry is her genuine, low-pressure style of business. When you work with this committed professional, it's clear she always has your best interests in mind. So if you're serious about making a move in the East Bay, call Claudia Brown today. She'll take A Creative Approach to your move and lead you to success.



1911 San Mateo Street, Richmond Annex
Open Sunday, March 6th, 1-5 PM

Stunning new listing in sought after Richmond Annex! 1980's multi-level 4+ bedroom/2 bath home. Over 2100 sq ft, one of the largest homes in the Annex with 2 decks, fireplace, fruit trees and El Cerrito schools. A must see! At Sunday's Open House, Mortgage Lender Mr. Inwon Kwang from Metrocities will be available to answer financing questions.

Listed at \$549,000

510.407.5799

Claudia Brown, Broker Associate

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KELLER WILLIAMS

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1515 Oxford St. #3D
Berkeley



Luxurious and spacious top floor corner condo unit in one of North Berkeley's finest buildings. 2BR, 2BA, 2,155 sq. ft. of living space. Great rooftop clubhouse and deck with panoramic bay views. Steps to U.C., BART, Chez Panisse and Cheese Board.

Offered at \$589,000

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Ury Beary
Broker Associate



The GRUBB Co.

NEW LISTING



964 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley

COMING SOON. Lovely traditional with level-in access, in prized North Berkeley neighborhood, close to North Berkeley and Solano Avenue shops. There are 4+++ bedrooms, three baths including master suite, remodeled kitchen, formal dining room, spacious living room with fireplace, beautifully landscaped garden, and private patio.

Offered at \$995,000



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Open Sun 2-4

Gene Millstein
(510) 527-8822

Berkeley

12 East Parnassus Ct.

\$1,200,000

Architect designed contemporary. Spacious light filled rooms. Vaulted beamed ceiling. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, plus office, loft, and large workshop or studio, plus 2-car garage. Beautiful location on quiet cul-de-sac, large mostly level 7,400 sq. ft. lot.



Open Sun 2-4

Arlene Acuña
(510) 206-0793

Richmond

2630 Longview Dr.

\$525,000

Light filled distinctive contemporary. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Dramatic great room with 26' high cathedral ceilings. North Bay & hill views. Spacious master bedroom retreat. Quiet cul-de-sac near commute + shops.



Listed for \$675,000
but sold for
\$792,000
7 Offers

Sheri Madden
(510) 524-3840

Berkeley

28 Vallejo St.

SOLD

Large gracious rooms. Fine architectural details in this Thousand Oaks home needing major refurbishment by new owner. 2+ bedrooms, 2 baths.



Listed for \$799,000
but sold for \$932,000
4 Offers

Alexandra Crisafulli
(510) 843-5224

Oakland

591 Valle Vista Ave.

SOLD

Stunning Mediterranean-Deco mix. Custom mosaics. Large & open floor plan. 4+ bedrooms, 3 baths. Large plus room now used as an artist's studio.



We were pleased to
represent the Buyer
in the Winning Bid.

Berkeley

Thousand Oaks Traditional

Classic 1925 home walking distance to Solano Ave. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. 2,100 sq. ft. Living room with French doors opening onto beautiful large landscaped garden. 8 offers, several for more than \$1,400,000

(510) 527-8822

www.MillsteinAssociates.com



Everything you've wanted to know about papayas

Q. I've been successful in growing papaya from seeds. One of these trees is now quite large and has fruit on it. When will the papayas turn a yellow/orange color? Also, will the winter frost kill papayas?

A. Yes, papayas are damaged with our winter temperatures. They are evergreen herbaceous plants growing to 25 feet. They're herbaceous because they have no woody tissue in their trunks. The trunks are straight, hollow and rarely branched. This makes them more susceptible to freezing temperatures than other subtropical species like citrus and guavas.

Many times, the foliage is just burnt. Eventually, we have a very cold winter that will kill the plant. The last killing frost was in 1990. I'd spray it now with Cloud Cover.



BUZZ BERTOLERO
The Dirt Gardener

Cloud Cover puts a protective barrier on the leaf surface.

I think of it as Chap Stick for plants. When freezing temperatures are forecast, I'd also cover it with a plant blanket. What happens next is up to Mother Nature. Papayas bear fruit at and early age. Flowering and fruiting occur near the top of the plant in the leaf axils.

The fruit turns a yellow-orange color about eight months after pollination. Commercially, papayas are picked early because when ripe they bruise too easily. This is called the green mature stage.

From this point the fruit will pass through three additional stages, evidenced by an increasing amount of yellow, beginning at the bottom of the fruit and working its way to the top.

The second stage will begin to show some yellowing. The third stage will be equally green and yellow. In the fourth stage, the papaya is considered to be about 75 percent ripe with a predominantly yellow color.

A ripe papaya should have a light fragrance and yield slightly to pressure much like an avocado. A general rule of thumb is green papayas will take five to seven days to ripen, stage two about two to four days, and stage three about one to two days.

Since papayas are ethylene sensitive, they will ripen more quickly when put in a paper bag like other ethylene-producing fruits such as apples or bananas. However, keep those fruits away when the papaya is fully ripe. Ripe papayas will keep in the refrigerator for up to a week. Freezing papayas is not recommended as they lose their flavor when defrosted.

Q. Can you tell me to do with my clematis? It is a mass of dead, brown leaves and tangled up tendrils. In the past, I'd try to remove as many of those crunchy leaves as I can and then attempt to figure out what's dead and what's not.

A. Clematis can be a confusing group of plants to prune, since they are not all pruned the same way. It all depends on the time of the year when the plant blooms.

The earliest flowering clematis like clematis armandii, clematis montana bloom in April and May on old wood. Later-flowering varieties such as clematis Jackmanii must produce new growth in order for the flower buds to form.

Prune these plants immediately after flowering, but no later than the end of August. This allows enough time for the new growth to produce flower buds for the next season. You should remove the shoots the support the spent flowers as well as other growth but avoid cutting into the woody trunks.

The mid-season hybrids bloom in mid-June on short stems from the previous season's growth and often again in late summer on the new growth, although these blooms are usually smaller.

They are pruned now through the end of March by removing the dead and/or weak growth, and then cut back the remaining stems to the top-most pair of large, plump green buds. This cut could be 6 to 18 inches from the stem tips. Plants in this group have the tendency to become leafless at the base as they mature. You can plant low, spreading perennials to help conceal the stems.

Another option is to cut the vine back to eighteen inches after blooming to force a new flush of growth from the base. Late summer flowering varieties bloom on the last 24 to 36 inches of the current season's growth.

Some types begin blooming in mid-July and continue into the fall. This is the easiest group to prune since no old wood needs to be

maintained. Between now and March cut each stem to a height of about 24 to 36 inches. This will include the removal of some good stems and buds.

Buzz Bertolero is executive vice president of Navlet's Garden Centers and a California Certified Nursery Professional. His Web address is www.dirtgardener.com; send questions by e-mail at dirtgardener@aol.com or to 360 Civic Drive Ste. D, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

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Small town Values

Small town Service

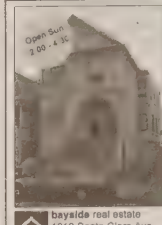
Competitive Rates



Alameda, California
Licensed by Calif. Dept. of Real Estate



Adam Sadeg
Mortgage Consultant



bayside real estate
1812 Santa Clara Ave
Alameda, CA 94501

\$550,000

611 23rd Street, Oakland

This property has 4 legal units in one of the up-and-coming neighborhoods. It has a large 3 bedroom 1 bath unit plus three 1 bath units. It has easy access to BART, is close to bus lines and BART for a short drive to downtown Oakland or San Francisco. Great changes and new construction in the neighborhood.



Call or e-mail Quinn
510-326-4444
quinn@bayside-realestate.com

New Release

Rosewood Estates

Room to grow. And then some.

SOARING SPACE AND ELEGANT DESIGN COMBINE AT ROSEWOOD ESTATES. Our latest collection of luxury residences has all the space a growing family needs...and more. Four gorgeous floorplans with up to 3,679 sq. ft. of living area situated on sites that average over 8,000 sq. ft. Comfortable, inviting spaces include large family rooms, spacious secondary bedrooms, dens and bonus rooms (per plan). One cannot over look the stunning exteriors in Normandy, Queen Anne, Cottage and Georgian architectural styles.

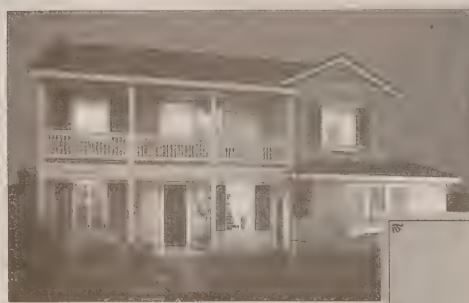
Located on the upscale East side of Tracy, just steps from a fully equipped park, Rosewood Estates gives your family room to grow. From the \$700,000's. (209) 834-1031

Prices subject to change without notice, approximate square footage, map not to scale

YES, WE HAVE LARGE SINGLE-STORIES, TOO!



It's all in the details, and Rose Garden is full of them. This spectacular master-planned community of four distinct single-family home neighborhoods in Brentwood boasts seven neighborhood parks, scenic trails and a nearly four-acre central park that includes a rose garden, gazebo and swim center. Not only are the homes gracious and charming, featuring the latest wiring and high-tech building technologies, but each front yard comes immaculately landscaped with roses. All this, and a location within minutes of Marsh Creek trails, exciting new shops and fine schools. Visit soon and see why everything's coming up roses in Brentwood.



Rose Garden

A Platinum Environment for Living™ Community

- 4 Distinct neighborhoods
- Central rose garden park
- High speed Internet connectivity
- 7 Neighborhood parks
- Swim center
- Trail system

Pulte
The way it should be

Master-planned right down to the last rose

Arbors
1,528-2,362 sq. ft.
From the high \$400,000s
(925) 516-7022

Gallery
1,817-3,101 sq. ft.
From the mid \$500,000s
(925) 516-9380

Estates
2,378-2,808 sq. ft.
From the \$600,000s
(925) 516-7114

Classics
3,068-3,861 sq. ft.
From the \$700,000s
(925) 516-8125

Models open daily
10-5; Wednesday 2-5

Located on Lone Tree Way
just east of Fairview Ave.

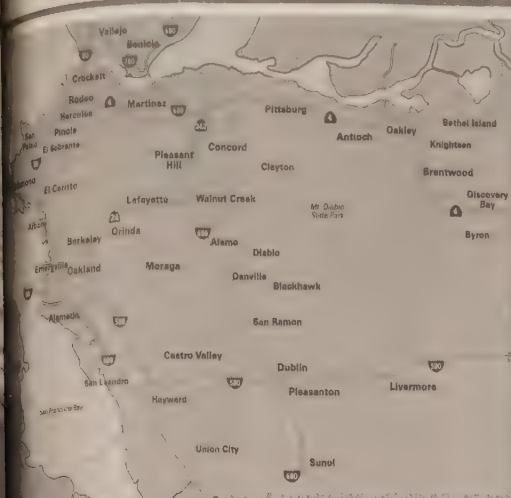
pulte.com

Prices subject to change without notice, approximate square footage, map not to scale

Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com



Emeryville
\$499,000 4321 Essex St. 3BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4:30
C21 Heritage
Victor Fierro

Oakland
\$145,000 730 29th St #109 Commercial
Open Sun 2-4pm 510-280-2105
Red Oak Realty Sara Garabedian
\$199,000 730 29th St #115 Commercial
Open Sun 2-4pm 510-280-2105
Red Oak Realty Sara Garabedian

\$235,000 360 Vernon St. #101 1BD/1BA
Open Sunday 1-4 510-336-9999
Assist-2-Sell
\$279,000 1 W. Embarcadero 1BD/1BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Jack London 510-428-9900
Prudential Nancy Hinkley

\$289,000 360 Vernon St #307 2BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4pm 510-559-2929
Marvin Gardens Herman Sun
\$290,000 2901 Macarthur Blvd #112 2BD/1BA
Open Sun 1-4 510-828-3633
Windermere Real Estate Martina Wolter

\$334,900 1305 Boulevard Way #204 2BD/1BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Walnut Creek 510-899-6320
Montclair Better Homes Pamela Finney
\$335,000 5920 Hayes 2BD/1BA
Sun 2-4 510-748-1197
Gallagher & Lindsey Jose Cerda-Zein

\$339,000 4724 Melrose Ave 2+BD/1BA
Sun 2-4 510-258-8831
Kane & Associates Garvin Lee
\$359,000 5890 Vallejo 1BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4:30pm 510-280-2163
Red Oak Realty Charlie Cook

\$359,000 730 29th St #208 1BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4pm 510-280-2105
Red Oak Realty Sara Garabedian
\$368,000 424 Orange St. #210 2BD/2BA
Sun 2-4 510-882-6222
Harbor Bay Realty Lena Sazo

\$369,000 730 29th St #207 1BD/1BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-280-2105
Red Oak Realty Sara Garabedian
\$375,000 2101 13th Ave 3BD/1BA
Open Sun 1-4pm 510-834-2010
Prudential CP, Miami

\$379,000 4268 Suter Street 2BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4:30pm 510-339-9400
The Grubb Co. Hope Broderick
\$385,000 2419 Bartlett St. 2BD/1BA
Sat & Sun 2-4 510-814-4826/814-4858/814-4822
Harbor Bay Realty Donnaluci W./ Brooke A./ Jean P.

\$389,000 1556 Tucker St 2BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4pm 510-334-5805
Caldwell Banker Bartels Joanne Yu
\$389,000 1556 Tucker St 2BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4pm 510-334-5805
Caldwell Banker Bartels Joanne Yu

\$389,000 5920 Morse Dr. 2BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4:30pm 510-339-8900 x218
C21 Heritage Freddie Dizon
\$399,000 2550 38th Ave 2BD/1BA
Sun 2-4 510-814-4892
Harbor Bay Realty Eunice Edwards

\$399,000 375 Jayne Ave 2BD/1.5BA
Open Sun 2-4:30pm 510-280-2140
Red Oak Realty Barbara Hendrickson
\$419,000 5243 Cole St 2+BD/1BA
Sun 2-4pm Maxwell Park 510-849-9900
Maison Nouveau Annalisse Demuth

\$425,000 2027 26th Avenue 2BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4:30pm 531-7000 x235
Wells & Bennett Realtors Frank Hennefer
\$425,000 3044 Suter 2+BD/1BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-428-0900
Prudential Nancy Hinkley

\$429,000 3815 Ruby St. 2BD/2BA
Sat & Sun 2-4:30pm 510-339-4700
Caldwell Banker Jeffrey Neideman & Leslie Wei
\$439,000 1084 56th St 3BD/1BA
Sun 2-4pm N. Oakland 510-461-4663
Stephanie Christmas

\$439,000 3136 West St 4BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-636-6606
RE/MAX Wayne Wilkerson
\$449,000 3000 Davis St 2BD/1BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-339-9290
Prudential Fruitvale Mary Dresser

\$449,000 565 Bellevue, #2001 2BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Lake Merritt 510-899-6305
Montclair Better Homes Rosemary Greene
\$489,000 3726 Rhoda Ave. 2+BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-339-4700
Caldwell Banker Claudia Bowman

\$489,000 551 Jean St, Ph-2 2BD/2BA
Sun 1-5pm Rose Garden 510-551-6282
Prudential Mark Mata
\$499,000 127 Frisbie 3BD/1BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-339-9290
Prudential Tami Bobb

\$499,000 3649 Shone Ave 2+BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-339-9290
Prudential Millsmont Mary Dresser
\$499,000 6605 Evergreen Ave 1BD/1BA
Sun 1-5pm 510-339-9290
Prudential Erik Johnson

\$505,000 3700 Virden Ave. 2BD/1BA
Sun 2-5 510-339-4700
Caldwell Banker Nader Davari
\$505,000 626 Jean St 2BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-869-5192
Prudential Rose Garden Natalie Lynch

\$510,000 73 Samaria Lane 2BD/2BA
Open Sun 1-4 510-547-5970 x57
Lawton Associates Mary Smartt
\$525,000 611 57th St. 2+BD/1BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-338-1381
Pacific Union GMAC Tom Nemeth

\$539,000 3779 Fruitvale Ave 2+BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4pm 510-280-2103
Red Oak Realty Marc Guay
\$540,000 3333 Georgia St. 4BD/2BA
Open Sun 1-4:30pm 510-339-8900 x255
C21 Heritage Mel Copland

\$549,000 3729 Wisconsin St 3BD/1.5BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-482-9000
Montclair Better Homes Patriciabennett.com
\$549,000 3729 Wisconsin St 3BD/1.5BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-482-9000
Montclair Better Homes Patriciabennett.com

Oakland
\$549,000 506 Montclair Ave 2BD/1BA
Open Sun 1:30-4pm 510-508-5580
Caldwell Banker Bartels Mary Cao
\$549,000 506 Montclair 2BD/1BA
Open Sun 1:30-4pm 510-508-5580
Caldwell Banker Bartels Mary Cao

\$549,950 3226 Wyman St. 4BD/2BA
Open Sat. 1-3:00/Sun 12-2:00 510-655-4781
Agent Pamela Crawford
\$550,000 611 23rd Street 4 units
Sun 2-4:30 510-521-1647/388-3399
Bayside Real Estate Quilm Stone/Billy Ho

\$559,000 3858 Fruitvale Ave. 2+BD/1.5BA
Sun 2-5 Upper Dimond 510-338-1340
Pacific Union GMAC Christian Downer
\$579,000 3944 Fruitvale Ave 3BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 Dimond 510-339-0400
The Grubb Co. Anne Van Dyke

\$589,000 400 60th St. 2BD/1BA
Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge 510-338-1379
Pacific Union GMAC Steven Blasatti
\$589,500 311 Oak St. #333 2BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 Jack London Sq. 510-451-7317 x18
Valva Realty Co. Mike Bresso

\$599,000 25 Ironwood 3BD/2.5BA
Sun 2-4pm Sequoyah Heights 510-845-0211
Prudential N. Platford
\$599,000 2808 Hillegass #2t 2+BD/1BA
Sun 2-4pm Elmwood 510-849-9900
Maison Nouveau Tory Finn

\$599,000 9999 Balboa Dr. 3+BD/2BA
Open 2-4:30 Montclair 510-338-1319
Pacific Union GMAC Ann Nichols
\$599,500 311 Oak St #330 2BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 Jack London Sq. 510-451-7317 x18
Valva Realty Co. Mike Bresso

\$619,000 1534 Mountain Blvd. 2BD/1BA
Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-338-1354
Pacific Union GMAC Jennie A. Flanagan
\$619,000 4501 Elinora Ave 3BD/1.5BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Redwood Heights 510-482-9000
Montclair Better Homes Patriciabennett.com

\$628,000 831 55th Street 2+BD/1+BA
Sun 1-5 510-339-4700
Caldwell Banker Donna Conroy
\$638,000 62 Entrada Avenue 3+BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont 510-339-0400
The Grubb Co. Ed Kuo

\$669,000 7009 Broadway Terrace 3BD/2.5BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-339-8900
C21 Heritage Helen Nicholas
\$675,000 11 Conrad Ct. 2+BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-338-1342
Pacific Union GMAC Nancy Chew

\$679,000 3818-3820 Shatten 2BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Temescal 510-339-9290
Prudential Gene Boomer
\$699,000 100 Buckeye Ave. 5BD/3BA
Sun 2-4:30 Upper Rockridge 510-338-1303
Pacific Union GMAC Wendy Gardner-Ferrari

\$699,000 563 Radnor Road 4BD/3BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 Haddon Hill 510-652-2133
The Grubb Co. Lori Lombardo
\$699,000 5708 Florence Terrace 3+BD/2BA
Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-338-1341
Pacific Union GMAC Leslie Avant

\$699,000 5708 Florence Terrace 3+BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-338-1341
Pacific Union GMAC Leslie Avant
\$699,000 836 33rd St. Multi-Unit
Open Sun 2-4:30pm 510-325-2898
ZipRealty David Kerr

\$719,000 4509 Elinora 4BD/3BA
Sun 2-5 Redwood Heights 510-338-1352
Pacific Union GMAC Diane E. McCan
\$724,999 4616 Redwood Rd. 3BD/2.5BA
Sun 2-4:30 Oakland Hills 510-338-1302
Pacific Union GMAC Nancy Moor

\$749,000 6918 Thornhill 3+BD/3BA
Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-338-1355
Pacific Union GMAC Donna Costella
\$779,000 1929 Oakview Drive 4BD/3BA
Sun 2-4:30 Oakmore 510-339-4700
Caldwell Banker Julie Joyce

\$779,000 5851 Chabot Ct 3BD/2BA
Sun 2-5pm Rockridge 510-428-0900
Prudential Judith, Sheila
\$795,000 26 Mall Ct 3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Piedmont Pines 510-339-4555
Montclair Better Homes Marthia Shin

\$869,000 7000 Ridgewood Drive 4BD/3BA
Sun 2-4:30 925-890-4115
Pacific Union GMAC Carolyn Way
\$879,000 7825 Skyline Blvd 3BD/3BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 531-7000 x239
Wells & Bennett Realtors Don Dunning

\$945,000 1021 Hubert Rd. 4+BD/3BA
Sun 2-5 Crocker Highlands 510-338-1319/1364
Pacific Union GMAC Ann Nichols/Cindy Houts
\$949,000 4309 Terrabella 4BD/3BA
Sun 2-4:30 510-338-1308/1314
Pacific Union GMAC Dick Cohen/Sandi Klemmer

\$975,000 5062 Cochrane Ave 3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Upper Rockridge 510-339-4550
Montclair Better Homes Nahid Nassiri
\$995,000 1162 Trestle Glen Road 3+BD/2.5BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-0400
The Grubb Co. Kurt Buchholz

\$999,000 644 Chetwood Street 5 Units
Open Sun 2-4:30 Grand Lake 510-339-0400
The Grubb Co. Sheila Gallagher
\$1,100,000 1767 Indian Way 4+BD/4.5BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Montclair 510-339-4550
Montclair Better Homes Nahid Nassiri

\$1,150,000 992 Sunnyhills Road 3+BD/2+BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands 510-339-0400
The Grubb Co. Judith Cain
\$1,200,000 715 Rosemount Rd 4+BD/3.5BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Crocker Highlands 510-339-4280
Montclair Better Homes M.J. McConville

\$1,249,000 801 Northvale Rd 4BD/3.5BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Crocker Highland 510-339-9290
Prudential Andreas Furtner
\$1,249,000 6222 Bullard 3+BD/3BA
Sun 1-5 Piedmont side of Montclair 510-339-4700
Caldwell Banker Donna Conroy

\$1,295,000 5176 Golden Gate Ave. 4BD/3BA
Sun 2-4:30 510-339-4700
Caldwell Banker D. Diamantine & E. Lancaster

Oakland
\$1,350,000 7026 Norfolk Road 4BD/3.5BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 Claremont Hills 510-652-2133
The Grubb Co. Carolyn Jones
\$1,550,000 1079 Asmount Ave. 4BD/3+BA
Sun 2-4:30 510-339-4700
Caldwell Banker Judy Ackerman

\$1,695,000 65 Wyngaard Ave. 4BD/3+BA
Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont 510-339-4700
Caldwell Banker Dian Hymer
\$1,875,000 6550 Gwin Rd. 5BD/3.5BA
Sun 2-4:30 Montclair 510-338-1305
Pacific Union GMAC Teri Carlisle

\$2,125,000 7112 Marlborough Terrace 3BD/3.5BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Claremont Hills 510-339-9290
Prudential Heidi Marchesotti
\$2,395,000 5895 Grizzly Peak 4+BD/3.5BA
Sun 2-4:30pm Oakland Hills 510-339-9290
Prudential Heidi Marchesotti

Piedmont
\$1,195,000 24 York Dr 3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30pm 510-428-0900
Prudential Claire Cunningham
\$1,250,000 523 Hampton Road 4+BD/3.5BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-339-0400
The Grubb Co. Linda McClain

\$1,295,000 114 Indian Rd. 5BD/3BA
Sun 2-4:30 510-338-1325
Pacific Union GMAC Georgia Cornell
\$1,475,000 9 Abbott Way 4+BD/4BA
Sat & Sun 2-4:30 510-338-1324
Pacific Union GMAC Roselle Woods

\$2,195,000 190 Sandringham Road 4BD/4+BA
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-486-1495
The Grubb Co. Sandra Vogl

Pinole
\$495,000 1278 Hazel 3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4 510-486-1495
Caldwell Banker Michelle Holm
\$555,000 2371 Simas Ave 3BD/2BA
Open Sun 1-5pm 510-367-5221
Caldwell Banker Bartels Anne Beetham

\$629,000 2840 Poulos Ct. 2BD/2.5BA
Sun 1:30-4:30 510-486-1495
Caldwell Banker Gregg Lustig

Richmond
\$359,950 2916 Clinton Ave 2BD/1BA
Open Sun 1-4pm 510-662-8480
Security Pacific Michael J.
\$389,999 630 42nd St 2BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4pm 510-938-2255
Real Estate Ladies Felecia Jenkins

\$398,988 5011 Esmond 2BD/1BA
Open Sun 1-4pm 510-517-3326
Security Pacific cythiaburke.com
\$788,000 641 Rock Rose Way 4+BD/3BA
Open Sun 1:30-4pm 510-290-5666
Caldwell Banker Bartels Lynda Bartels

San Leandro
\$539,000 13882 Velarde Dr. 3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30 510-821-4040
Alameda Realty Carol Knight
\$669,000 546 Fortuna Ave 4BD
Sun 2-4 510-508-7959
Alameda Realty Carol Burnett

San Pablo
\$495,000 1997 20th St 4BD/2BA
Open Sun 1-4pm 510-366-4084
Caldwell Banker Bartels David Yates

Walnut Creek
\$548,800 211 Siskiyau Court 3BD/2.5BA
Fri 4-6, Sat & Sun 1-4 510-851-0322
Kane & Associates Anita Wong

Property Out of Area
\$545,000 224 Kavanaugh Way 4BD/2BA
Sun 2-4 Pacifica 510-506-2051
Gallagher & Lindsey Rolando & Coqui Basora

What are

looking for?

Classifieds

Classifieds

Classifieds

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ALAMEDA



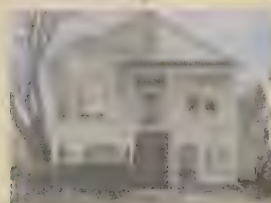
3255-3257 FERNside BLVD. \$1,200,000
Waterfront Property Open Saturday 2-4
 Opportunity for waterside living plus income property. Two homes on one lot. Front cottage is 2 bedrooms, 1 bath and a fireplace. Tri-level rear home is 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room with fabulous water view, 32 foot deep water dock and large deck for entertaining.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Angela McIntyre 510-377-7733



3286 ENCINAL AVE. \$725,000
East End Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 New Listing! East End cottage with 4 bedrooms and 2 baths on large lot. New carpeting, eat-in kitchen, dining area and sunny back yard. Plus a 1 car garage, wheelchair ramp and room for parking an RV.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Troy Staten 510-748-1125



950 SANTA CLARA AVE. \$870,000
Central Alameda By Appointment Only
 New Listing! Triplex Plus! Located in a mid-Alameda residential neighborhood. Unit #1 has 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, Unit #2 has 2 bedrooms, 1 bath & Unit #3 has 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Spacious kitchens. Easy access to public transportation, schools & shopping. Property is situated on an extra large corner lot. Part of the lot has been separately fenced and may be rented for additional revenues.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Angela McIntyre 510-377-7733



1611 WILLOW ST. \$660,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 Victorian duplex. Built in 1892, this Victorian has 2 units each with 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. The lot is approximately 5000 square feet and has 2 driveways. Located near schools, parks and transportation, this Classic Victorian is just waiting for restoration.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Tom Bennett 510-748-1158



313-315 MAITLAND DR. \$650,000
Bay Farm Island By Appointment Only
 New Listing! Spacious Duplex. Each unit with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath and garage. The front unit has a deck off the side yard and the rear unit has a large backyard. Close to shopping, transportation, excellent Bay Farm Island schools and Harbor Bay Business Park.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Evelyn Kennedy 510-748-1120



935 SANTA CLARA AVE. \$1,490,000
8 Units By Appointment Only
 Located on a large corner lot. This 8 unit building has 4 one bedroom apartments and 4 studios and 5 off-street parking spaces. Units have hardwood floors, separate meters, laundry facilities and newer roof. Outside recently painted. Call for more details and showing.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Mary Carder 510-523-7752

2146 CLINTON AVE. \$695,000
Central Alameda By Appointment Only
 Three units in prime residential location. Each unit has 1 bedroom, 1 bath and there are 3 off-street parking spaces. Great potential.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Alice Garvin 510-748-1116

Gallagher & Lindsey REALTORS

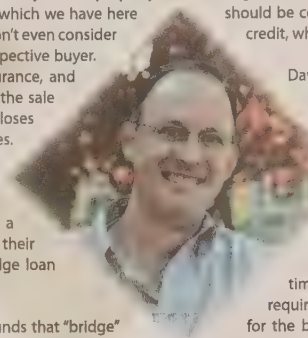
Buy Before You Sell Or Sell Before You Buy?

In a perfect world, you would identify your new property, make an offer to purchase it, and then arrange for the seller to wait while you sell your old property. In an extreme seller's market, which we have here in the Bay Area, most sellers won't even consider a contingent offer from a prospective buyer.

Bay Area sellers demand assurance, and an offer not contingent upon the sale of the buyer's home, usually closes quicker and without surprises. Additionally, most successful listings are sold vacant and staged. So how do savvy sellers and their agents buy a new property before selling their current home? They use bridge loan financing.

Bridge loans are short-term funds that "bridge" the gap between today's need for immediate cash to use as a down payment and closing costs, and the final sale of your current home. A bridge loan is meant to be a short-term loan, usually with a loan term of six months with an option to renew

for another six months. It is an interest-only loan, so you don't have to repay principal until you pay off the loan. With good credit, the interest rate on a bridge loan should be competitive with a home equity line of credit, which is your other alternative.



Michael Studebaker
 Broker/Manager, Realtor®
 SRES, e-PRO®, Cal Alumni '89

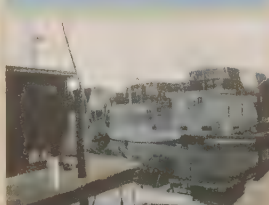
David & Alice are good friends and clients of mine. Last year, prior to putting their home on the market, I referred them to a well-respected mortgage broker, who assisted them on securing a bridge loan. This afforded them the luxury of identifying their dream home and making a very aggressive non-contingent offer. It also gave them the time to sell their warehouse/loft, which required relocating tenants and waiting for the buyer to secure commercial financing. When the warehouse sold, David and Alice simply paid off their loan commitments including the bridge loan and associated fees. For many, a bridge loan can mean the difference between buying the home of your dreams and missing out.

More than 10,000 active listings in 7 counties!

- ◆ Search in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino & Solano counties
- ◆ View more photos, virtual tours and review property disclosures online
- ◆ Schedule a showing appointment online 24/7
- ◆ Receive Daily Emails for your specific search
- ◆ Find out about free real estate seminars in the East Bay
- ◆ Check out Karen & Tim's real estate career section and course calendar

www.GallagherandLindsey.com

ALAMEDA



COMING SOON
2394 MARINER SQ.DR. \$399,000
Barnhill Marina By Appointment Only
 Ready for a change? Want something original and fabulous? Ever thought of living on a floating home? Coming soon - a spacious and full of light floating home at Barnhill Marina with 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths and a great Estuary view. \$525 dock fees per month. Call for more information.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Angela McIntyre 510-377-7733

WEST ALAMEDA \$150,000
Business Opportunity
 West End location. Laundry, wash and fold business with good client base. For further information, contact Bill & Griselda, your 24 hour realtors working for you.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-917-1617

\$404,463*

Adam's Point/Rosegarden Condo
 Median Sales Price 2 Bedroom or more*

ALAMEDA



1505 CENTRAL AVE. \$950,000
Central Alameda By Appointment Only
 3 UNITS. Each unit has 2 bedrooms, and 1 bath. Unit "C" has recently been remodeled and a new roof has been installed. The living rooms and dining rooms have hardwood floors and each unit has 2 off street parking spaces. This triplex is close to schools and transportation.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Al Wagner 510-748-1123

449-451 PACIFIC AVE. \$645,000
West End By Appointment Only
 TWO HOUSES ON LARGE LOT. The front house has 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, wood floors, hook-ups for a washer and dryer and a 1 car attached garage. The 1 bedroom, 1 bath rear house has an additional room and storage area and also hookups for a washer and dryer. The Wedgewood stove and the refrigerator are included in the sale. This property is close to schools, transportation and shopping. Call for more details and to schedule a visit.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Rolando and Coqui Basora 510-506-2051

EL CERRITO



310 SEAVIEW DR. \$610,000
Weston Village Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Nestled in the quiet hills of El Cerrito, this home offers a spectacular view of Albany Hill, Angel Island and the Golden Gate Bridge. With a stunning addition this is a true find for anyone seeking a soothing retreat from the bustle down below. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, bonus room, hardwood floors and a 2 car garage plus carport.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Iris Murillo 510-748-1105

224 KAVANAUGH WAY \$545,000
Pacific Open Sunday 2-4
 This Cape Cod home built in 1955 has 4 bedrooms and 2 baths and sits on a very large lot. There is a new roof and most windows have been replaced with double paned windows. The second level has hardwood floors, the kitchen has an eating area and there is a huge backyard. Close to freeways, schools and shopping.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Rolando & Coqui Basora 510-506-2051

OAKLAND



5837 HAYES
Seminary District Open
 LARGE LOT WITH FENCED IN YARD. Carpeting in living room, new refrigerator, dishwasher, and fresh paint. This 2 1/2 bath home with laundry room, storage in the attic and unfinished basement and the back yard has a deck.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Jose Cerda-Zeln 510-748-1120

6060 GRIZZLY PEAK BLVD. \$1,100,000
Oakland Hills By Appointment
 New Listing! Build your Dream Home with a 280° panorama on the very Peak. Beautifully treed lot that is a subdivision possible. Property front Regional Park.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Jim Nations 510-748-1120



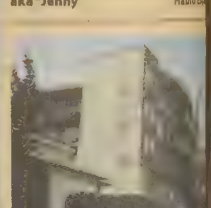
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Oakland By Appointment
 Large and roomy 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with approximately 1350 sq ft. remodeled kitchen with granite, new appliances and tile floor. Spacious living rooms with Pergo floors, restaurants and cafes, Lake Merritt and transportation.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Jim Nations 510-748-1120



10411 PEARMAIN ST. \$1,100,000
East Oakland By Appointment
 Great single family home on a corner lot in 1940, this home has 2 bedrooms, 2 baths and hardwood floors. Front and side landscaped.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Guinevere Holder 510-748-1120



371 - 30th ST. #104 \$110,000
Summit Center Area By Appointment
 Light & Bright executive condo on PITT ST. unit with modern design & traditional decor in this rare 2 year old building. Hardwood designer colors, granite counters, cabinets, recessed lights, stainless steel tiled bath, interior laundry. Secure large patio & downtown views. Walk to Piedmont Ave. shopping.
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Ann Bracci 510-748-1120



2235 - 92ND AVE. \$550,000
East Oakland By Appointment
 Craftsman style home on large lot with 3 bedrooms and 1 bath. The living room has built-in cabinets, and the formal dining room has craftsman detailing. Off the living room for extra storage. The large lot offers room to expand. And there is a large end of the long driveway.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Patricia Gomilla 510-748-1120

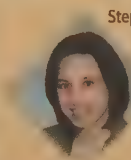


COMING SOON
OAKLAND
 Near San Leandro. Oakland home with 3 bedrooms, 1 bath on large lot.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1120

Selling your Adam's Point/Rosegarden Condo?

Edson Adams was an affluent Connecticut merchant whose name lays claim today to the northern shore of Oakland's 'Adam's Point'. After selling off large portions of this fertile grazing land to wealthy families, prominent architects such as Julia Morgan and JC Newson were inspired to design small mansions and Craftsman-style bungalows. Sadly, many of these grand homes have not survived, but the charm of Adam's Point lives on in those restoring period homes and for the great majority who own or rent in the many condo developments. Anchored by such landmarks as Grand Lake Theater, Lake Merritt and the thriving commercial districts of Piedmont and Grand Ave, Adam's Point and nearby Rosegarden neighborhoods offer views and proximity to some of Oakland's best attractions.



Stephanie Neher is working with a very motivated buyer who is pre-approved and has written several offers already. This buyer is fully pre-approved, works in downtown Oakland, and is looking for an Adam's Point or Rosegarden condo with views and a balcony. A two bedroom condo or small home that doesn't require much maintenance in this area would be ideal. If you know of a property that fits this description and may be for sale soon, please contact Stephanie Neher at (510) 748-1133.

Stephanie has a buyer for you!

Disclaimer: If your property is presently listed for sale, this is not intended as a solicitation. Sales data compiled from EBRD using Oakland Map 2610 for detached residential condos w/ 2 or more bedrooms. This information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

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SPORTS

• Friday, March 4, 2005 •

Section C

Porras takes painful path to state

By Dave Carpenter
STAFF WRITER

NEWARK — There could not have been a more painful way for Albany High School wrestler Levi Porras to qualify for the California Interscholastic Federation state championships.

In a rematch of the 191-pound championship match at the Mission San Jose Invitational, Porras fell to Freedom's Mike Leslie 6-4 Saturday to earn second place in the North Coast Section finals on Saturday. By finishing in the top four, Porras achieved a goal he has been shooting for since he was in sixth grade.

However, Porras' road to the NCS final took a very scary path

PREP WRESTLING

in the semifinals.

The Cougars' 191-pounder advanced to the final after his semifinal opponent was disqualified during their match for a rough takedown.

Porras was unable to continue after suffering a very sore and stiff neck. It tightened up during the championship match, but he somehow fought through it.

"I just kept going," he said.

In the semifinal, with no score early in the second period, Porras got out of the down position and started to stand. Analy's Mark Ryan lifted Porras in the air

and drove him into the mat head-first after the referee reportedly warned Ryan to take it easy.

Porras was down for several minutes. He finally got up as the fire department arrived with a stretcher. Porras was able to walk off the mat on his own.

"He wasn't woozy at all," Albany coach Kermit Bankson said. "There was instant trauma that was there, but it went away quick."

Porras won the match by an injury default, which put him in the championship final and Ryan into the consolation bracket.

Bankson said Ryan's move was illegal but didn't believe he meant any harm.

"It's just the nature of the

game," he said. "There was no intent by anybody."

Porras could have forfeited in the final, took a second-place medal and gone to state. However, he decided to wrestle for the championship.

It was questionable whether Porras would wrestle. Bankson left it up to his senior to decide for himself.

Porras had been on a roll. He pinned all three of his opponents Friday to reach the semis. He was the only Bay Shore Athletic League wrestler who was seeded and the only one who survived the first day of the event without a loss.

The Cougars were 19th as a team.



DEAN COPPOLA/STAFF

LEVI PORRAS, left, of Albany will compete in this weekend's CIF championships after placing second at NCS at 191 pounds.

AL NOTEBOOK

Porras' profile in courage

By Dave Carpenter
STAFF WRITER

THE DECISION was all his to make. Albany High School wrestler Levi Porras could have forfeited his last match and still would have finished second in the North Coast Section championships, but he decided to continue.

The Cougars 191-pounder driven hard into the mat by Albany's Mark Ryan in the semifinals and could not finish the match. It took several minutes for the Albany senior to get up after being slammed to his head.

Porras was disqualified from the match and was sent to the consolation bracket, where he ended up placing third.

Porras advanced to the final, where he had a chance to win a section title.

With a sore and stiff neck, Porras decided to continue.

Porras lost to Freedom's Mike Leslie and finished second anyway.

For the semis, there was a lot of doubt over whether Porras would keep wrestling. It all depends on him, if he's feeling fine," Albany coach Kermit Bankson said. "The credit for him is to win a championship."

Porras had elected not to

See BSAL, Page 2

AL NOTEBOOK

Merger gives boost to boys volleyball

By Robert Jordan
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO BOYS VOLLEYBALL COACH Fred Gonzalez can thank the Contra Costa Athletic League commissioner Bill Pugh and Bay Shore Athletic League commissioner Phil Pugh for a less stressful season.

Thanks to the duo, Gonzalez can have to worry about scheduling a full schedule because the league had only five teams. Instead, the ACCAL and BSAL formed a combined league that guarantees the boys will play 16 matches.

"I think it is good because you have a bigger league, play two matches per week," Gonzalez said. "If you have a very small schedule like last year, it disrupts the rhythm."

However, even with the combined schedule the two leagues will keep their North Coast Section playoffs autonomous.

It is a common schedule so guarantee each other wins," said Jones about the league setup. "For the ACCAL, we will only count other teams. So our league standings will reflect ACCAL wins."

Jones said that the extra games will not affect the league standings, but it will help the

See ACCAL, Page 2



SHERRY LAVARS/STAFF

BERKELEY HIGH'S Kellan Patterson dunks in his team's game against El Cerrito. Berkeley won 63-58.

Calegari lifts St. Mary's to title

■ He scores five points in BSAL championship game's final minute to secure victory for Panthers

By Chace Bryson
STAFF WRITER

Larry Gurganious may have scored 11 of his game-high 22 points in the fourth quarter of Saturday night's Bay Shore Athletic League championship game at Albany High School.

And yet, it was Dom Calegari's five points in the last minute of the game that helped lift the St. Mary's High School boys basketball team to a 58-50 win over Salesian.

With the Panthers (24-3) clinging to a 51-50 lead and just 45 seconds left in the game, point guard Jordan Thurston found Calegari wide open in the corner.

The 6-foot-7 center had missed his first four attempts from behind the arc but didn't hesitate to hoist his fifth.

"I knew if (Thurston) had confidence in me then I could do it,"

PREP BOYS ROUNDUP

Calegari said. "He gave me a perfect pass and I knew I had to come up with a big shot."

The shot was good and Salesian never recovered. Calegari and Thurston each sank two free throws to secure the Panthers' second win in three games between the two schools this season.

Salesian trailed by as much as 11 points in the third period but battled back to take a 49-47 lead with 3:30 left in the game. However, much like its previous loss to St. Mary's, turnovers were costly down the stretch.

St. Mary's defeated Cardinal Newman 64-49 in the first-round of the North Coast Section Division IV playoffs on Wednesday. The Panthers will play Terra Linda at Contra Costa College tonight at 7:30.

Berkeley 69, Foothill 61: In the first 2½ minutes of Wednesday's first-round North Coast Section Division I game, Berkeley's Dior Lowhorn took it upon himself to drive the Yellow Jackets' offense.

The Texas Tech-bound Lowhorn scored Berkeley's first nine points of the game for a 9-4 Yellow Jackets lead and had 15 of his game-high 31 points in the first quarter as the host Yellow Jackets defeated Foothill.

"I came out extra fired-up," said Lowhorn, who also scored 10 points in the fourth quarter. "There's a sense of urgency. If you lose, you go home. All the teams you play (in the playoffs) are good."

Berkeley, the No. 2 seed, (24-3) held a 24-12 first-quarter lead and 41-23 halftime advantage. But the seventh-seeded Falcons (18-9) rallied in the second half and cut Berkeley's lead to six points in the fourth quarter before the Yellow Jackets prevailed.

With 4:47 left, a lay-in by Foothill's Brian McDonough cut Berkeley's lead to 54-48. But two Berkeley steals led to consecutive dunks by Lowhorn and Kellan Patterson. With less than two minutes remaining, a converted

offensive rebound by Foothill's Ryan Dadrass brought the Falcons within nine points at 56-65. But Berkeley guard Duane Bagsby sank two free throws and a lay-in by teammate Ronald Pugh with 56.2 seconds left gave the Yellow Jackets a 69-56 lead.

"We understand what phase of the season we're in. We had a good start. I'm concerned that we slipped defensively in the second half," Berkeley coach Mike Gragnani said.

Kevin Tyler added 10 points for the Yellow Jackets.

Berkeley 63, El Cerrito 58: The host Yellow Jackets finished the Alameda Contra Athletic League season undefeated (14-0), as they outscored the Gauchos 23-12 in the final quarter on Friday for the win. Robert Mitchell paced Berkeley with 17 points. Kenny Leaks had 15 points for El Cerrito (6-8 ACCAL).

Staff writer Phil Jensen contributed to this roundup.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Albany falls short vs. BOD

By Curtis Pashelka
STAFF WRITER

The Albany High School girls basketball team was disappointed on Sunday when it didn't receive the No. 4 seed for the North Coast Section Division III playoffs.

And for the first three quarters of Wednesday's quarterfinal against Bishop O'Dowd, it looked as though the Cougars had a right to be.

But the host Dragons, who were seeded No. 4, came alive in the fourth quarter to help earn a 45-38 win over Albany and advance to Friday's semifinals against top-seed El Cerrito.

The Dragons hit 7 of 12 shots and forced eight Albany turnovers during the fourth quarter to pull away.

Albany coach Joaquin Wallace went into the NCS seeding meeting last weekend looking for the No. 4 spot behind El Cerrito, Miramonte and Analy-Sebastopol. The Cougars ended up No. 5, forcing them to go on the road

See ALBANY, Page 2

PREP GIRLS ROUNDUP

Panthers advance to semifinals

STAFF REPORT

Host St. Mary's High School held a 36-21 halftime lead and cruised from there to beat Healdsburg 71-42 in a North Coast Section Division IV basketball quarterfinal game on Wednesday. Courtney Dunn paced the Panthers with 17 points and she also grabbed nine rebounds. Christina Johnson added 12 points for the No. 3 seed Panthers (19-10), who will travel to play No. 2 Moreau Catholic tonight at 7:30.

Piedmont 59, St. Mary's 47: On the strength of 18 points and 13 rebounds from Courtney Paris and 16 points and 10 rebounds from her sister Ashley, the Highlanders captured their third straight BSAL championship with a victory over St. Mary's on Saturday at Albany High.

Piedmont (25-2) went to work early in the low post as the sisters secured their territory right away, scoring the Highlanders' first nine points. The difference came at the end of the quarter as Jocelyn Woolsey and Annie Crangle each hit from 3-point territory to give their team a seven-point lead to end the period.

St. Mary's (19-10) showed its toughness in the second quarter as it used an 8-2 run to outscore the Highlanders 11-10 in the period. The turning point came in the third quarter as the Highlanders embarked on an 18-1 run out of halftime.

Courtney Dunn led the Panthers with 15 points and five rebounds. Teammate Natty Frapp finished with 14 points in the effort.

St. Mary's 60, Albany 39: The host Panthers held a 55-23 lead after three quarters in a BSAL playoff semifinal win on Feb. 24.

See GIRLS, Page 2

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	Newark Memorial	23-3	MVAL playoffs a mere formality before earning the Division I top seed
2.	Berkeley	22-3	Yellow Jackets sew up second straight ACCAL title
3.	De La Salle	21-4	Frank Allico secures 14th consecutive 20-win season
4.	Salesian	21-5	Chieftains finish first in BSAL regular season
5.	St. Mary's	22-3	Panthers one game behind Salesian in BSAL regular-season standings
6.	San Ramon Valley	22-3	Early end to EBAL gives Wolves extra week of rest before playoffs
7.	Pinole Valley	21-4	Spartans clinch second place in ACCAL with 84-59 win over Alameda
8.	St. Joseph	18-8	Pilots take lead early and beat Albany in BSAL first round playoff game
9.	San Leandro	20-4	Returns to the top 10 after a 58-53 win over Hayward
10.	Deer Valley	18-7	Wolverines battle to beat Freedom 59-51 on Feb. 22

Others receiving votes: Alhambra (22-3), Bishop O'Dowd (16-8), Campolindo (20-5), McClymonds (18-9), Monte Vista (20-6). The prep boys basketball poll incorporates all East Bay high schools and is compiled by the staff of Contra Costa Newspapers. Records are through Feb. 23.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	Piedmont	23-2	Strong second half leads Highlanders past St. Mary's 55-40 on Feb. 18
2.	Carondelet	22-3	Cougars seem to be getting stronger with each passing week
3.	Moreau Catholic	23-1	Manners beat Mt. Eden 60-44 to improve to 14-0 in HAAL
4.	Oakland Tech	16-6	Bulldogs finish tied atop the OAL with Castlemont
5.	Castlemont	24-2	Knights enjoy easy wins over McClymonds, Skyline
6.	Pinole Valley	24-1	Should give Carondelet its biggest challenge in Division II
7.	Deer Valley	21-3	Wolverines dismantle Freedom 81-16 on Feb. 22
8.	St. Mary's	17-9	Gives Piedmont a scare before the wheels come off in the fourth quarter on Feb. 18
9.	Berkeley	17-8	Is a 10th straight NCS title in the cards for the Yellow Jackets?
10.	Miramonte	21-4	Holds off Northgate to take sole possession of first in the DFAL.

The prep girls basketball poll incorporates all East Bay high schools and is voted on by the staff of Contra Costa Newspapers. Records are through Feb. 23.

ACCAL

FROM PAGE 1

ACCAL and BSAL teams reach the NCS rule of maximum number of matches played at 24 plus two scrimmages.

The Gauchos didn't have problems fielding matches last season playing in four tournaments and finishing with 32 games played. Tournaments only count for two matches toward the NCS 24-match limit.

But in the BSAL, St. Joseph played 16 matches before the NCS playoffs, Salesian 21 and St. Mary's 30.

BIG WIN: The Hercules boys basketball team needed a win in their ACCAL finale Feb. 24 to help their chances of nabbing a North Coast Section at-large berth.

Behind an effective press, the Titans defeated Richmond 77-62 to finish the regular season with a 14-12 overall record and 7-7 ACCAL mark. Three

days later, the Titans were named as an at-large team for the NCS Division III playoffs.

"The press was the difference," Hercules coach Darryl Reeves said about the Feb. 24 win. "We got some easy baskets off of turnovers."

The Titans had five players score in double-figures. Brandon Wiley led the way with 17 points, followed by Lance Olivier (16 points), Tyrell Evans (12 points), Derrick Dickens (10 points) and De-Shaun Waters (10 points). Olivier passed for 12 assists and Evans grabbed 14 rebounds in the win.

Hercules then edged host Miramonte 65-64 in the first round of the NCS Division III playoffs Tuesday. The Titans had four players achieve double-figure scoring, led by Wiley with 17 points and Olivier with 15 points.

OUTSTANDING SEASON: De Anza finished the best boys soccer season in its school history by being edged by Bishop O'Dowd 2-1 in a shootout in the NCS 2A championship game Saturday. The Dons ended the season with a 16-4-2 record and advanced to the North Coast Section boys soccer playoffs for the first time, according to De Anza coach Marques Dillard.

"It was fantastic," said Dillard about the team's NCS experience. "I think we've earned some level of respect now. You don't go through Acalanes and Miramonte by luck."

The Dons opened the playoffs with a 2-1 win over Acalanes in a shootout, then defeated Miramonte 2-0 in the semifinals.

"It would have been nice to beat Bishop O'Dowd, but they were at home and they were pumped up," Dillard said. "I was hoping (the game) would be on neutral ground."

Staff writer Phil Jensen contributed to this notebook.

BSAL

FROM PAGE 1

wrestle in the final, he still would have advanced to the California Interscholastic Federation state championships by placing second. The top four qualified.

However, Porras thought he had something to prove by wrestling for the section title. "I feel much better," he said of his decision. "I think I deserved to be there."

Porras hopes to be a pain in the neck for the other 37 191-pounders today and Saturday at the state championships in Bakersfield.

His first match today is against Galileo-San Francisco's Alex Denny.

GIRLS SHINE: Eight BSAL wrestlers placed in the top eight at the NCS girls champi-

onships, which were also at Newark Memorial High School last weekend.

Albany led the pack with five. Heather Purkey (105) and Alex Chua (122) took fourth, Karen Nakasato (105) and Maia Matalon (146) finished sixth and Nat Chaichana (140) placed seventh.

St. Patrick's Alex Tolero (116) and Camille Marzan (146) claimed second and third, respectively.

Berkeley's Lily Dorman-Colby (134) finished third. Albany was seventh as a team. St. Patrick 12th and Berkeley 19th. San Leandro won the event.

PARISES TO GO: Piedmont girls basketball stars Ashley and Courtney Paris were selected to the McDonald's All-American girls team.

The twin sisters led the Highlanders to their third

straight BSAL championship and hope to wrap up their third consecutive section and Northern California titles and second state crown in a row.

The girls game is part of a doubleheader with the boys game. It will be played March 30 in South Bend, Ind. The girls game is at 5:30 p.m. EST. and will be broadcast on ESPN2 on March 31 at 2 p.m.

Twenty-four boys and 24 girls from across the country were selected to the teams.

IT'S SPRING AGAIN: League play for spring sports has arrived. Boys volleyball began on Tuesday, boys golf starts next Tuesday, boys tennis next Thursday, baseball and softball on March 16 and track and swimming on March 17.

Winter, we hardly knew you.

BRIEFS

Donate cleats at Bay Oaks tryouts

Bay Oaks soccer tryouts for boys and girls 10U-14U March 5-6 at Merritt College, Oakland. Bring used soccer, baseball and football cleats to the tryouts for donation to the Sports4Kids program. Cleats will be given to low-income students who participate in the Sports4Kids program in the bay area. Unclaimed cleats will be sent to children in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala. For tryout information, 510-368-3001 or www.bayoaks.net. For donation information, 510-282-8297.

Pilots to retire Freitas' jersey

The St. Joseph Notre Dame baseball program will retire the jersey of coach Ray Freitas at noon March 26 at Washington Park in Alameda.

An alumni game will follow. All Pilots alumni are invited to attend. For more information visit www.eteamz.com/sjndpilots-baseball.

USA Junior Olympic Baseball needs players

USA Junior Olympic baseball team is looking for players ages 14-16 with high school experience.

USA baseball selects the 16U National Team. 2005 Summer Olympic tournament is June 17-25 in West Palm Beach, Fla. All players on the National Team will compete in the Pan American games. Javier Carrillo, 925-565-4450 or www.antiochsenators.com.

Basketball tournament offered at Alameda High

The North American Youth Sports spring basketball tournament will be April 1-3 at Alameda High School.

There are brackets for boys and girls grades 5-12. The fee is \$125 per team with a minimum guarantee of two games. The entry deadline is March 11. For

HOW TO REACH US

Results, reports and press releases on local sports teams, athletes, organizations and events can be e-mailed to the following address:

hillsreports@cctimes.com

Representatives from organizations within the circulation area of the Alameda Journal, Berkeley Voice, El Cerrito Journal, Montclair and Piedmont are encouraged to submit items to this address.

For questions, please call 510-748-1662 or 510-262-2738.

more information call the hotline at 1-800-787-3265 or Ed Ruiz, 510-532-7301.

Registration is set for Alameda Soccer Club

The Alameda Soccer Club will hold registration from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday and from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. March 10 at the club office, 2233A Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda.

\$60 new players, \$35 for 2004 players. Registration also available online at www.alamedasoccer.org. 510-337-9183.

Alameda High School Summer Basketball Camp

Alameda High School will offer a summer basketball camp for both boys and girls entering grades fourth through ninth on June 21-24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Alameda High gymnasiums.

The cost is \$125 for applications and a \$25 deposit submitted before May 6. The balance of \$125 is due June 6. The regular price is \$150 and goes up to \$175 for those that pay at the door on June 21. The cost includes a camp T-shirt, Hornet basketball, pass to a Hornet home game and 20 plus hours of instruction. For more information or an application contact Brad Thomas at 510-865-7063.

Alameda World Team seeks players

Alameda World Team basketball is looking for skilled 15-year-olds that are interested in participating in the World Tournament in Fresno and also in the Games in Canada in August.

For more information, contact Tim Marr, 510-865-7063 or Krinks, 510-521-5709.

Oakland Girls Softball League opening day

Opening day ceremonies scheduled for Saturday at Jones Field on Redwood between Campus and The league is seeking and volunteers for the season. 510-339-7248 or www.ogsl.org

BYA All Net Basketball

Berkeley Youth basketball for boys and girls 11 begins March 8. Monday 6 p.m. Tuesdays for girls 10 residents, \$15 a week. Location and registration 845-9066.

CMMF golf tournament fundraiser

The Chris Mashburn Foundation will host a tournament fund-raiser at Discovery Bay Country Clubhouse Drive, Berkeley Bay. \$175 per golfer. Sponsorship opportunities available. Proceeds enrich the quality of lives through athletics. 510-865-7063 or www.cmmffoundation.org

Pinole Valley High School tournament

Pinole Valley High School host a junior varsity spring tournament March 31-4 at the Pinole Valley Field. Man teams also welcome. Games guaranteed. 510-741-9663.

Albany

FROM PAGE 1

to face the Dragons.

"Our floor is a little bigger and it's not as cramped, but I'm not going to say that playing at home would have made a difference," Wallace said. "Bishop O'Dowd just played better than we did."

The Cougars (20-9) held a 16-15 lead at halftime and a 29-25 advantage after three quarters.

But the lead could have been larger considering they made just 11 of 34 field goals and 6 of 14 free throws in 24 minutes.

That allowed the Dragons (18-9) to hang around, and they took full advantage, starting the fourth quarter with a 13-3 run to take a 38-32 lead. Bishop O'Dowd never trailed again.

Briana Weiss and Ashley Collier combined for 15 points in the fourth quarter. Albany, meanwhile, went ice cold in the final

period, hitting just 1 of 11.

"We just missed too many throws and didn't execute the defense the way we normally do," said Cougars guard Jade Williams, who finished with 21 points. "We didn't communicate enough on defense and then have too many mistakes."

Ceciley Johnson led the Cougars with 12 points and 10 rebounds.

Girls

FROM PAGE 1

St. Mary's Shantrell Sneed led all scorers with 17 points. Teammate Cristina Thomas added 13 points. Ceciley Johnson paced Albany with 14 points.

El Cerrito 56, Novato 38: The No. 1 seed Gauchos (22-5) held a 43-25 third-quarter lead on the way to their win Wednesday in the NCS Division III quarterfinals.

Myleka Emerson had a game-high 17 points for the host Gauchos. Teammate Turquoise Wilder added 16 points. The Gauchos will host No. 4 Bishop O'Dowd tonight at 7:30 in a semi-

final matchup.

El Cerrito 61, Berkeley 56: The host Gauchos received a career-high 30 points from Myleka Emerson and outscored the Yellow Jackets 17-8 in the fourth quarter to win on Feb. 24.

Shonetta Crain-Williams added 18 points and 10 rebounds for the Gauchos. Jennifer Gross paced Berkeley with 17 points.

Alameda 66, El Cerrito 64: The host Hornets outscored the Gauchos 25-12 in the fourth quarter in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League finale for both teams on Saturday. Emerson led all scorers with 25 points.

Berkeley 66, Newark Memo-

rial 54: Danesha Wright led 22 points and Albany Mitchell added another 22. No. 3 seeded Yellow Jackets breezed to an easy NCS Division I first-round victory over visiting Cougars on Tuesday.

Berkeley (18-9) led the half, then outscored Newark Memorial (18-12) over the final 16 minutes to ice the game.

Berkeley moves on to the 2 seed Amador Valley tonight in Pleasanton.

Staff writer Phil Jensen and correspondent Ben Enos contributed to this roundup.

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Reviews

FROM PAGE C3

"NOBODY KNOWS": Four children are left alone in a Tokyo apartment by their wayward mother, and not so much as a neighbor knows of their existence. Under the tender direction of Horikazu Kore-eda, the children give astonishingly naturalistic performances and the film is beautiful. But it feels roughly akin to watching a boxful of abandoned kittens squirm in misery. — M. Pols. (PG-13: mature thematic elements, some sexual references.) 2 hours, 21 minutes. B-

"ONG-BAK: THE THAI WARRIOR": In this martial arts spectacle, Thai superman Tony Jaa plays Ting, a country bumpkin who goes to Bangkok to retrieve the stolen head of his village's Buddha. There he encounters a corrupted former neighbor, not to mention a few street damsels in distress, a cancerous crime lord who smokes through his tracheotomy hole, and several big, bruising Western tourists stupid enough to challenge Ting to bar fights. — B. Strauss. (R: violence, nudity, drug use, language.) 1 hour, 45 minutes. B

"THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA": Tens of thousands of candles flicker throughout lavish Baroque sets. The Phantom glowers dramatically. Every bosom in sight heaves. Star-crossed lovers declare, in song, their undying devotion. There are red roses everywhere. The only thing missing is Mariah Carey, who would be right at home in this gaudy, senseless interpretation of Andrew Lloyd Webber's popular stage musical, directed by Joel Schumacher and starring the lovely young Emmy Rossum and Gerard Butler as a whiny, indecisive Phantom. — M. Pols. (PG-13: brief violent images.) 2 hours, 23 minutes. C-

"THE POLAR EXPRESS": The buzz was that Robert Zemeckis' movie was going to change the face of moviemaking with its high-tech innovations. But to fans of Chris Van Allsburg's 29-page, heavily illustrated book, the bigger question was whether the film could do justice to this beloved children's holiday tale. The answer: yes! Wonderously, the source material has been broadened with great respect and tenderness. Tom Hanks served as the source for many animated roles. — M. Pols. (G) 1 hour, 36 minutes. B+

"POOH'S HEFFALUMP MOVIE": Cute, cuddly and well-intentioned — all this you'd expect from an animated movie starring Winnie the Pooh and Co. But in this new adventure in the Hundred Acre Wood, you'll also get a parable about prejudice. One morning Pooh and his pals hear a noise that rattles their

usual idyll; the crotchety Rabbit says the sound could only have been made by a Heffalump, an evil-doer with "fiery eyes and a tail with a spike." — C. Lemire. (G) 1 hour, 8 minutes. C

"RAY": Jamie Foxx channels the late, great Ray Charles in this fascinating bio-pic that doesn't skim over the rough spots in the musician's past, including heroin addiction and much womanizing. But the movie suffers from the conundrum of being both too shallow and too long. — M. Pols. (R: a depiction of drug addiction, sexuality, some thematic elements.) 2 hours, 32 minutes. B-

"SIDEWAYS": Paul Giamatti and Thomas Haden Church are two very different middle-aged men on a road trip through the Santa Barbara wine country in this just-about-perfect movie from director Alexander Payne ("Election," "About Schmidt"). Wickedly funny, but poignant, too. — M. Pols. (R: language, some strong sexual content, nudity.) 2 hours, 4 minutes. A

"SON OF THE MASK": This sorry little offspring of Jim Carrey's 1994 hit "The Mask" is about a weenie who gains superpowers and a super ego when he stumbles upon an ancient artifact. Jamie Kennedy blunders along for the absent Carrey, and the filmmakers have toned down the action and purged whatever traces of adult mentality the original possessed to present the follow-up as a family-friendly flick. — D. Germain. (PG: action, crude and suggestive humor, language.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. D+

"VERA DRAKE": Vera (Imelda Staunton) is the cheeriest, most helpful gal in her dingy London neighborhood, circa 1950. She's also a back-alley abortionist, "helping out" hundreds of poor women. Director Mike Leigh handles this incendiary topic with a bare-bones economy that goes straight to the heart of the legal and moral questions, without being overt or strident. The ensemble cast, particularly Staunton, is superb. — M. Pols. (R: adult themes.) 2 hours, 5 minutes. A-

"A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT": Audrey Tautou stars in this odd but charming and stylish movie. The story begins in 1919, two years after Manech's court-martial and death sentence for intentionally wounding himself on the front, then disappearing. The official word is that he's dead. But the smart and superstitious Mathilde (Tautou) is not convinced. She engages the help of an exuberant private detective, and together they begin inching toward the truth. — C. Chocano. (R: graphic violence, some sexuality and nudity; in French with English subtitles.) 2 hours, 13 minutes. B

"THE WEDDING DATE": A single woman (Debra Messing) hires a male prostitute (Dermot Mulroney) to accompany her to a family wedding, hoping to make her former fiancé jealous. Plays as a gender reversal of "Pretty Woman," with elements of plenty of other dumb date movies mixed in. Director Clare Kilner has an ear for making her actors sound almost like real people, even amid the absurd situation, and that's what saves the film from being a complete disaster. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual content, including dialogue.) 1 hour, 25 minutes. C-

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD

IN PAIRS BY MIKE TORCH / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS	DOWN
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8 Most down	2 Slangy rejection
14 Potential lifesaver, for short	3 Reading unit?
17 Struck	4 March time
18 Advanced Latin class reading	5 Crag
19 Con tender?	6 See print
22 Works off and on as a hospital resident?	7 Exclamation of angel loves to hear
24 Weather Channel topic	8 Trite
25 Lofth	9 Do not disturb
26 Syrian, say	10 Three-time
27 Not for free	11 Always
28 Watch	12 Hide, e.g.
29 Breathe during an ice storm?	13 They're each worth two F.G.'s
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Events

STAGE

ASHBY STAGE — "The Just" by Albert Camus. Mar. 3 through Apr. 10, Thursday through Sunday, 8 p.m. Camus dramatizes the minds of men and women who are willing to die for a cause in this examination of a factual assassination during the 1905 Russian Revolution. Presented by Shotgun Players. \$10 to \$30. 510-841-6500 or www.shotgunplayers.org

AURORA THEATRE COMPANY — "Dublin Carol" by Conor McPherson. Feb. 3 through Mar. 6, Wednesday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. The West Coast premiere of McPherson's newest play. Set in the office of an Irish undertaker on Christmas Eve, the play tells a tale that is both sad and humorous about a man whose life is destroyed by alcoholism but who is offered a last chance for redemption. \$36 to \$45. Aurora Theatre, 2081 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-843-4822 or www.auroratheatre.com

BERKELEY CITY CLUB — "Actors Reading Writers: Eccentric Children," Mar. 7, 7:30 p.m. Live readings by local actors of short fiction by Truman Capote and Frank O'Connor. Free. 510-845-8542 X376

CENTRAL WORKS THEATRE ENSEMBLE — "Enemy Combatant: The Story of an American Traitor," Feb. 19 through Mar. 26, Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m. A new drama about the case of John Walker Lindh, the so-called "American Taliban." \$8 to \$20.

CONTRA COSTA CIVIC THEATRE — "Buried Child" by Sam Shepard. Mar. 4 through Mar. 13, Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. The Pulitzer Prize-winning play about the disintegration of the American Dream. \$10. 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. 510-524-9132 or www.cct.org

IMPACT THEATRE — "Othello," Feb.

11 through Mar. 19, Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. This new version of Shakespeare's classic features Othello as a dark-skinned African-American in a position of power in the American military, and Iago as a light-skinned African-American ensign. \$15 general; \$10 students and seniors; pay what you can on Thursdays.

LA VAL'S SUBTERRANEAN THEATRE, 1834 Euclid St., Berkeley. 510-464-4468 or www.impacttheatre.com

JULIA MORGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS — "Stories by Tobias Wolff," Mar. 11 and Mar. 12, 8 p.m. Word for Word Performing Arts Company performs short works of fiction by Wolff. \$25. 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-8542 or www.juliamorgan.org

LA PENA CULTURAL CENTER — "La Pena's Cuentos Series," Mar. 11, 8 p.m. Dance/theater performances of Lailani Chan's "You So Fake!" and Shyamala Moorthy's "Rise." \$10.

3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568 or www.lapena.org

MASQUERS PLAYHOUSE — Staged

Reading of "Don Juan" by George Bernard Shaw. Mar. 6, Friday and Saturday, 2:30 p.m. \$10. 105 Park Place, Point Richmond. 232-4031 or www.metro.org

OAKLAND METRO — "The Bright River" by Alan

of the Afterlife," Feb. 16, Wednesday, 8 p.m. and the Everyday Theatre hip-hop retelling of Dante's "The Divine Comedy." \$12 to \$35. (415) 268-0224 or www.metro.org

THE ROTUNDA BUILDING — Shakespeare Theatre's "Twelfth Night," Mar. 12, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. elegant gala fundraiser for silent auctions, dinner and entertainment by still walkers, magicians, minstrels and European

See EVENTS, Page C5

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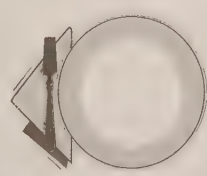
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The Dining Guide



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CB	Carte Blanche	\$	\$7-\$14
DC	Diners Club	\$\$\$	\$15-\$20
DS	Discover Card	\$\$\$\$	\$20+
MC	MasterCard		
VS	Visa	FB	Full Bar
AC	All Cards accepted	RR	Reservations recommended
CA	Checks accepted	W	Wheelchair access

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant
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Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, Angus New York steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular earlybird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. The Pier is open 7 days a week. New business hours: Sun. - Thurs. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. - Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

Sushi House
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When it comes to sushi, one place on the island comes to mind. Come experience why locals & out-of-towners alike flock to Sushi House. Whether you're a fan of modern or traditional Japanese cuisine, Sushi House will delight your senses with unique, award-winning sushi creations not found elsewhere on either side of the Bay. You've tried the rest. Now try the best! All seafood is delivered daily to ensure unrivaled quality & freshness. Showcasing these excellent beginnings are chef/owner James' own creations such as "Crazy Horse" - tuna, hamachi, salmon & avocado; "Crazy Monkey" - yellow tail, salmon, eel, tobiko and cucumber; & "Dynamite" - yellow tail, salmon, tuna & halibut deep fried in house special sauce - spicy! Frequent Sushi House diners John & Sally Crittenden agreed that "James is a real artist & his sushi is the freshest we've ever tasted." Sushi House is open nonstop from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday & 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays. Plenty of free parking. From an intimate date to a big celebration, Sushi House is the hip & trendy place to be in Alameda! AE MC VS \$\$\$ W

Speisekammer
2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda (510) 522-1300

Speisekammer presents Modern German Cuisine that is good for the body and soul. Sauerbraten, Wiener Schnitzel and a house recipe Bratwurst are standards. Light fare such as the Garmuschel (Vegetable Strudel with Goat Cheese, Roasted Red Pepper and Spinach. Served in a Carrot Sauce) give the menu a modern (or California) twist. There is a word in the German language that has no counterpart in English: Gemütlichkeit. It connotes a combination of comfort, friendship, and the general sentiment of being completely at ease with your surroundings. Speisekammer's atmosphere is Gemütlich. Large tables and a private room make it a great place for groups. The Beer is Strictly German. The Cocktails are Distinctly American, and the wine list has some of each. Lunch is served Tues-Fri - Grilled Panini Sandwiches and Salads are offered along with some of the more popular entrée items. Sunday Brunch is to die for! 10am-2pm. Dinner is served Tues-Sun. W, \$\$\$, AC, FB, RR

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Events

FROM PAGE C4

OF BERKELEY — "Womansong Circle," Ongoing. First Friday of the month, 6:45 p.m. Women are welcome to join voices in community singing of songs of joy, peace, justice and healing, led by singer Betsy Rose. Songs include chants, folk songs and sacred songs. Potluck snacks at 6:45 p.m.; music from 7:15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. \$8. 510-525-7082 or www.betsyrosemusic.org

Women's Voices: Strong Healing for Our Times, Mar. 4, 6:45 p.m. potluck; 7:15 p.m. music. A celebration of Women's History month to kick-off Womansong Circle's spring season. \$10 to \$15 donation. 510-525-7082

First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley.

FREIGHT AND SALVAGE — Marley's Ghost, Mar. 5. A one-band music festival. \$17.50 to \$18.50.

Steve Gillette and Cindy Mangsen, Mar. 8. Contemporary folk. \$17.50 to \$18.50.

"In Harmony for Asia," Mar. 8. An a cappella performance to raise funds for tsunami relief. \$19.50 to \$20.50.

Peppino D'Agostino, Mar. 9. One-man guitar ensemble. \$18.50 to \$19.50.

Leftover Dreams with Tony Marcus and Patricia Haan, Mar. 10. Music from the "Great American Songbook." \$17.50 to \$18.50.

Mac Martin and the Dixie Travelers, Mar. 11. Bluegrass from central Appalachia. \$18.50 to \$19.50.

Nancy Schimmel and Friends, Mar. 12. The songwriter and storyteller's 70th birthday gala. \$17.50 to \$18.50.

Music starts at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-548-1761 or www.freightandsalvage.org

JAZZSCHOOL — Jenna Marminia, Mar. 4.

Rhannon with Full Bowl of Sound, Mar. 5.

Montclair Women's Big Band featuring Vicki Randle, Mar. 6. A celebration of International Women's Day. \$20.

Frank Martin Trio, Mar. 11. With Troy Lampkins and Will Kennedy. \$18.

Kelly Gray, Mar. 12.

Dave LaFebvre, Mar. 13.

\$12 to \$18 unless otherwise noted. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 4:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 2087 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-845-5373 or www.jazzschool.com

KIMBALLS EAST — Hillsville U.S.A. Legends of Motown, Mar. 5. \$30.

Warren Hill, Mar. 11 through Mar. 13. \$30.

Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 6005 Shellmound St., Emeryville. 510-762-2277 or www.kimballe.com

LA PENA CULTURAL CENTER — "The Third Annual Noche de Skatemo," with La Plebe and Viernes 13, Mar. 4, 9 p.m. \$7 to \$10.

Nayo Ulloa with special guests, Mar. 5, 8 p.m. \$10 to \$12.

"Domingo de Rumba," Mar. 6, 3:30 p.m. This performance is at The Café. Free.

Jon Fromer and Emma's Revolution, Mar. 6, 7:30 p.m. \$10 to \$20.

Benefit Concert for the "Soneros Project," Mar. 10, 7:30 p.m. Huasteco and Jarochero music by Son de la Tierra, Cascada de Flores and Lado Oriente. \$8 general; \$5 students.

Holly Near and Ronnie Gilbert, Mar. 12, 7:30 p.m. A conversation and performance. \$18 to \$20.

The 6th Annual "In Song and Struggle," Mar. 13, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. East Bay singer-songwriters celebrate International Women's Day. \$10.

3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568 or www.lapena.org

MINGLES MARTINI AND CHAMPAGNE LOUNGE — Chocolate City, Ongoing. Thursday, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

POPULAR MUSIC

GILMAN ST. — All ages welcome. Womansong Circle, Rasputin, Sheephead, Molotov, Mar. 4. \$6.

Phishes, Veronica Lipgloss and the Red Eyes, PCP Roadblock, Abi Yo Yo, Mar. 5.

Dirty Dirty, Mar. 5.

Blackground, Rajan, Film Shorts, Nightmares of the Eel, The Valley Arena, Mar. 11.

AMALGO, Voetsak, Born/Dead, Ashtray, Mutual Abuse, Mar. 12.

Shows start at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 924 Gilman St., Berkeley. 510-525-9926 or www.24gilman.org

WINE&JAZZ — Prefetto De Vero, Mar. 4, 9 p.m. \$30.

WINE&JAZZ with Michael Doucet, Mar. 5, 9 p.m. Cajun/Zydeco music, with a wine lesson at 8 p.m. \$20.

Shannon and the Toodala Ramblers, Mar. 6, 3 p.m. A kids' show. \$6 general; \$4 children ages 1 and up; \$2 for children under one.

Ka Ua Tuahine Fundraiser, Mar. 9, 8 p.m. A performance of Tahitian music and dance. \$12 to \$15 general; \$5 to \$8 children under age 12.

Berkeley, Mar. 10, 9 p.m. \$10.

Aggrofies, The Uptones, Monkey, Mar. 11, 8:30 p.m. \$10.

Monkeys, Mar. 12, 9:30 p.m. A performance of music from Cuba, with a salsa lesson at 9 p.m. \$13.

3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-525-9654 or www.ashkenaz.com

WAXES ON TELEGRAPH — 3 Hours

Alas for Release, Bordello, Strag, Mar. 4, 9 p.m. Metal, rock, soul. \$10 to \$15.

Wax, Kung Fun Vampire with Kung, World Wide Sickness, Delta, Mar. 5, 9 p.m. Metal, rock, soul. \$10 to \$15.

Wax, Pacific Vibrations, Mar. 6, 9 p.m. Reggae. \$12 to \$15.

Wax and the Sex, Mar. 8. Hip hop. \$10 to \$15.

Wax with A-Typical DJ, DJ Team, Mar. 12, 9 p.m. \$10 to \$15.

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Steppin' lessons, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Dynamic Dyson and his Band, Ongoing. Friday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

370 Embarcadero West, Jack London Square, Oakland. 510-835-3900 or www.minglesoakland.com

STARRY PLOUGH PUB — The Starry Irish Music Session led by Shay Black, Ongoing. Sundays, 8 p.m. Sliding scale.

Desa, Charmless, Collisionville, The Cushion Theory, Mar. 5. \$6.

Blowout, Wataka, Mar. 10. \$5.

Farma, Firecracker, The Unravelers, Mar. 11. \$6.

The Wilders, The Earl Brothers, Mar. 12. \$7.

For ages 21 and over unless otherwise noted. Sunday and Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082 or www.starryploughpub.com

THE ALBATROSS PUB — Whiskey Brothers, Ongoing. First, third and fifth Wednesdays of every month. Old-time and bluegrass music. Free.

The David Jeffrey Jazz Foutet, Mar. 12. \$8.

Shows begin Wednesday, 9 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2473 or www.albatrosspub.com

YOSHIS — Pat Martino Quartet Tribute to Wes Montgomery, Mar. 3 through Mar. 6. \$12 to \$20; \$5 to \$16 for Sunday matinee.

Mimi Fox, Mar. 7. A tribute to Wes Montgomery. \$8 to \$12.

Kurt Rosenwinkel Quintet, Mar. 8 and Mar. 9. \$10 to \$16.

Ruth Brown, Mar. 10 through Mar. 12. \$22 to \$26.

Jacqui Naylor, Mar. 13. \$14 general; \$5 children for matinee.

Shows are Monday through Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland. 510-239-9200 or www.yoshis.com

CLASSICAL MUSIC

CAL PERFORMANCES — Performances in Zellerbach Hall unless otherwise noted.

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, Mar. 4, 8 p.m. The violinist will be accompanied by pianist Anne-Marie McDermott in a performance of works by Mozart, Poulenc and Brahms. \$38.

Musicians from Marlboro, Mar. 6, 3 p.m. The touring extension of Vermont's Marlboro Music Festival performs a program of chamber music by Mozart, Dutilleul and Mendelssohn. In Hertz Hall. \$38.

University of California, Bancroft Way at Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. 510-642-9988 or www.calperfs.berkeley.edu

CROWDEN MUSIC CENTER — The Sor Ensemble, Mar. 13, 4 p.m. A program of works by Bartok, Dvorak and Prokofiev. \$12 general; free for children.

1475 Rose St., Berkeley. 510-559-6910 or www.crowdenmusiccenter.org

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BERKELEY — American Bach Soloists, Mar. 5, 8 p.m. Jeffrey Thomas conducts the ensemble of soloists in a program of Bach's double concertos. \$20 to \$40. (415) 621-7900 or www.americanbach.org

San Francisco Chamber Orchestra, Mar. 6, 3 p.m. Benjamin Simon conducts the world premiere of a work commissioned for the orchestra by Paul Drescher, as well as works by Bach and Copland. The concert features pianist Juliann Ma. Free. (415) 248-1640 or www.sfcchamberorchestra.org

Cantabile Choral Guild, Mar. 13, 7:30



DERMOT MULRONEY and Debra Messing build on a for-hire relationship in "The Wedding Date."

p.m. The choir presents "Songs of Love and Liturgy," a program of works by Palestrina, Einojhan Rautavaara and J.S. Bach. \$25 general; \$20 seniors; \$6 students. (650) 424-1410 or www.cantabile.org

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF OAKLAND — Oakland Symphony Chorus, Mar. 5 and Mar. 6, Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 4 p.m. The Oakland Symphony Chorus and the Young People's Symphony Orchestra perform Brahms' "Ein deutsches Requiem." \$15 general; \$10 seniors and students. 510-207-4093 or www.oakland-symphonychorus.org

2501 Harrison St., Oakland

LANEY COLLEGE THEATER — Berkeley Youth Orchestra, Mar. 6, 2:30 p.m. The orchestra performs "A World of Melodies," a festival of celebratory music including works by Alfred Reed, Holst, Sate, Claude T. Smith and Tchaikovsky. \$5. 510-663-3296 or www.bytwbo.org

900 Fallon St., Oakland

MILLS COLLEGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT AND THE CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY MUSIC — Concerts take place in the Concert Hall unless otherwise noted.

Concord Ensemble, Mar. 4, 6 p.m. A concert of medieval and contemporary works, including pieces by Perotin, Stephen Hartke, Libby Larsen and N. Lincoln Hanks. \$12 general; \$6 seniors.

Simon Wickham-Smith, Mar. 7, 7:30 p.m. A performance and discussion by the electronics experimenter. In the Ensemble Room. Free

"Lore of Moments," Mar. 12, 8 p.m. An improvisatory concert by three trios. \$12 general; \$6 seniors

Mills College, 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 510-430-2296 or www.mills.edu

ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH — "An Evening With Bach in Zimmermann's Coffee House," Mar. 11, 7 p.m. A performance of Bach's "Peasant Cantata" and a concerto, with refreshments and beverages, in a recreation of Bach's favorite Friday night activity in Leipzig. Presented by MusicSource. \$75. 510-528-1685

St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501

Washington Ave., Albany

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH — "Chamber Music Sundae," Mar. 6, 3:15 p.m. A series of Sunday chamber music programs by members of the San Francisco Symphony and friends

March 6: Works by Schumann, Gisselera and Prokofiev. \$19 general; \$15 seniors and students; \$7 youth under age 18. (415) 584-5946 or www.chambermusicundae.org

San Francisco Early Music Society, Mar. 12, 8 p.m. Solo lutenist Nigel North performs ballad settings, galliards, pavans and other dances that entertained Queen Elizabeth and her court. \$25 general; \$22 seniors. 510-528-1725 or www.sfems.org

St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH — California Bach Society, Mar. 4, 8 p.m. A performance of Heinrich Schütz's "Cantiones Sacrae." \$25 general; \$18 seniors; \$10 students. (415) 262-0272 or www.calbach.org

Volts, Mar. 6, 4 p.m. The chamber chorus performs a program titled "Left Turn at Albuquerque," featuring traditional and contemporary a cappella music from Cuba, Peru, Argentina, Mexico and Colombia. A champagne reception and silent auction follow the concert. \$20 general; \$15 seniors; \$8 students. (415) 771-3352 or www.volts.org

2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. (415) 262-0272

STUDIO OF JOHN PHILLIPS — Benefit Concert for the San Francisco Early Music Society, Mar. 12, 3 p.m. Matthew Dirst with Play Bach's "Goldberg Variations" on a new harpsichord built by John Phillips. Admission includes the recital, refreshments and free admission to a SFEMS concert. Reservations required. \$50. 510-528-1725

933 Grayson St., Berkeley.

TRINITY CHAMBER CONCERTS — Brassiosaurs, Mar. 5, 8 p.m. The brass trio (trombone, tuba, trumpet and voice) performs works written for them by Chris Brown, Wendy Reid, Pauline Oliveros and Phillip Greenleaf, as well as original pieces by the group. \$12 general; \$8 seniors, disabled per-

sons and students. Trinity Chapel, 2320 Dana St., Berkeley. 510-549-3864 or www.trinitychamberconcerts.com

DANCE

ASHKENAZ — Beausoleil Avec Michael Doucet, Mar. 5, 9 p.m. Cajun/Zydeco music, with a dance lesson at 8 p.m. \$20.

"Ka Ua Tuahine Fundraiser," Mar. 9, 8 p.m. A performance of Tahitian music and dance. \$12 to \$15 general; \$5 to \$8 children under age 12.

Palenque, Mar. 12, 9:30 p.m. A performance of music from Cuba, with a salsa lesson at 9 p.m. \$13.

1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com

CAL PERFORMANCES — Performances in Zellerbach Hall unless otherwise noted.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Mar. 11 through Mar. 20, Wednesday through Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m. The AADT, known for energetic works incorporating ballet with modern, African and popular dance, performs three programs during its annual residency at Cal Performances. Featured works include: "Love Stories" by Judith Jamison; Robert Battle and Renée Harris; "Shining Star" by David Parsons; and "Burlisque" by Donald Byrd. \$32 to \$54.

University of California, Bancroft Way at Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. 510-642-9988 or www.calperfs.berkeley.edu

CALVIN SIMMONS THEATRE — The Diamano Coura West African Dance Company, Mar. 12, 8 p.m. The company presents its 10th annual "Collage des Cultures Africaines," featuring musicians, choreographers, dancers, folklorists and acrobats from Liberia, America, Senegal, Mali, Zimbabwe, Guinea and North Africa. \$10 to \$30. 510-733-1077 or www.urban-events.com or www.diamanocoura.org

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Arts & Leisure

Friday, March 4, 2005



BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

Classical station enters modern era

BAY AREA listeners are a discriminating lot. For proof, consider:

KQED-FM has higher ratings and more listeners than any noncommercial or NPR station in the country.

In commercial radio, San Francisco station KDFC (102.1 FM) six years ago became the first classical station ever to be the highest-rated music station in a major U.S. market. In the just-released Fall 2004, Arbitron ratings for the Bay Area, KDFC was number one in music again. Only 50,000-watt newstalk powerhouse KGO-AM gets higher ratings.

KDFC's corporate sister station, KOIT, placed third overall, just behind KDFC, beating out such popular urban and Spanish stations like KSOL and "Wild."

"Before Bonneville Broadcasting bought KDFC in 1997," explains KDFC programmer Bill Lueth (who came to S.F. as morning man at KDFC's now-defunct rival, KKHI) "we had a bit over 300,000 listeners. We've had a weekly audience of 500,000 for five years now," he says, "but our 565,000 in the new book is an all-time high for us."

Lueth, ironically, also is programming Bonneville's new country station, "The Bear" — which sits at his old classical station KKHI's 95.7 frequency.

When Bonneville (owned by the LDS Church) took over the struggling classical station from a Sacramento outfit that had bought it from the widow of KDFC founder and long-time manager Ed Davis, many here (like myself) worried the classical format might vanish altogether from Bay Area radio, where it had flourished for years with KDFC (AM and FM), KKHI (also with an AM) and, until the 1980s, at KQED-FM.

Lueth says only one other classical U.S. station has ever cracked the Top 10 in local ratings — KDFC's Bonneville sister station in Washington, D.C.

Many classical fans screamed when KDFC dropped the creaky Metropolitan Opera live broadcasts. And others aren't happy with the station's new "greatest-hits" formats. Gone are some of the more obscure composers you'd hear on the old KDFC — Bruckner, Delius, Nielsen, etc.

Just like any other music format, KDFC has thrived on familiar music — but by great composers. Beethoven's 9th Symphony was recently voted KDFC listeners' favorite work, and what's wrong with that? I can listen to Mozart, Vivaldi, Bach, Telemann and Haydn all day. I may have pedestrian tastes to some classical snobs, but that's OK.

I've been listening to KDFC for more than 20 years now after tiring of repetitive rock radio. And, except for its often-annoying commercials (Lueth swears he yanks the worst offenders), I have to say I like the station even more than I did when its late founder, Davis, ran it.

Ed Davis was a friend, and he often told me he thought of his station as a "museum" — "free, and open to the public." KDFC was only the second FM station on the air here, and the avuncular Davis liked to say he picked its call letters to stand for "Damned Fine Classics."

As much as I like the new, streamlined — and successful — KDFC, I also miss Davis, an old NBC hand, a broadcaster's broadcaster who died 10 years ago.

Davis refused to advertise his beloved station. When he was alive, there was never a single KDFC bus ad, TV ad or billboard. The station got OK ratings (not as high as today's), and Davis made a decent living. "Why do I need to make a lot of money?" he told me one day in his office when KDFC sat at the bottom of Van Ness in S.F. "I'm happy with what I do and with this station." That kind of sentiment would sound quaint to broadcasters today.

Bill Mann's column runs every other week. Reach him at Newsman@sonic.net.



JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

THE PIEDMONT ADULT SCHOOL Scottish Highland Dance class practices a dance called Argyll Broadwords, Monday night. Students, in foreground from left, are Sara Galvez, Cheryl Ishida, Josh Haiman, and Sara's mom, Ann Galvez.

Piedmont has slice of Scotland

■ Enjoy highland dancing, bagpipes and storytelling at a ceilidh, or party, on Saturday

By Suzanne LaFetra
CORRESPONDENT

On Monday nights on a hill-top in Piedmont, fiddles are singing, a bodhran (a goatskin drum) booms in rhythm, and 30 or so people are suited up in leg-warmers and ghillies, to practice some fancy footwork, known as highland dancing. It's a little slice of Scottish culture right here in Piedmont, aye, home of the Highlanders.

If it's hard to picture what highland dancing looks like, think soft-shoe "Riverdance" on one leg.

"The best way for you to see this is to come by," admits Elheran Francis, a second-genera-

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Piedmont Highlanders ceilidh

WHEN: 6:30-10 p.m. Saturday

WHERE: Ellen Driscoll Play House (next to Citibank), 333 Highland Ave., Piedmont

HOW MUCH: Free, donations welcome

INFO: piedmonthighlanders@my-way.com

tion Scot and instructor of highland dancing for the Piedmont Adult School. And you can do just that at the ceilidh for a night of highland dancing, bagpipes, story telling and Celtic music on Saturday night at the Ellen Driscoll Play House on none other than Highland Avenue in Piedmont.

Ceilidh (pronounced "kay-lee") is a Gaelic word that means "to visit" or "a party."

Like many Gaelic words, "once you see it you can't say it," quips Highland dancer Zoe Pollock with a grin.

The ceilidh is a party, where everyone helps out in the entertaining, Francis says, and each one is unique. The party is "highly spontaneous," he says, but there's always dancing and music. Francis says the ceilidh is "based on who shows up that evening and what they're willing to do." Children and families are welcome.

Not for the faint of heart (or faint of leg muscle), highland dancing involves spending long periods of time hopping and bouncing on one leg while the other leg tucks, twirls and points. Like other Scottish cultural markers like the bleat of a bagpipe, a tartan plaid, or good whiskey, highland dancing is practiced worldwide. And not just by those who hail from the land of Macbeth.

According to Francis, Scottish dancing is practiced in the United States, Germany, Australia and all over the world.

"Scottish country dancing is huge in Japan, believe it or not," he says. "They've got the biggest population of Scottish country dancers after Scotland and the United States."

About a third of those dancers who dance competitively at highland games are not remotely of Scottish descent, Francis says. The games feature dance competitions that begin in early spring and run throughout the summer across California.

There are many Scottish descendants who are simply having a great time dancing with the Piedmont Highlanders. The room is filled in for their practice night, "but the Piedmont dance program is not about that competitive dancing," Francis says. "People want

See CEILIDH, Page C7

Weighing options for fitness clubs

■ Long-term versus month-to-month contracts are just the start of things gym-joiners must evaluate

By James Temple
STAFF WRITER

You could forgo budding health buffs if, after attempting to evaluate their local fitness club options, they instead threw up their hands and shuffled back to the couch until next New Year's.

Prices vary sharply from club to club, while the same chain's dues fluctuate from city to city and month to month. When prospective customers finally settle on a gym, they often face a slew of payment options: Long-term contracts versus month-to-month and access to the entire chain or a single club.

Meanwhile, some strapping young sales associate wielding a body fat gauge is likely to inform them that any of these particular deals will only be around for a limited time, so they'd better choose fast.

Gyms themselves note the fitness industry is not a high-margin business and say the many options merely allow consumers to choose a deal that best fits their financial situation and fitness goals. But consumers risk overpaying if they don't carefully evaluate their options and honestly consider how often they'll use the service.

Broadly speaking and not surprisingly, a higher price equates to more facilities. While Gold's Gym in Oakland offers weight machines, treadmills, aerobics classes and other fitness club basics for \$427 per year for an individual, the Harbor Bay Club in Alameda offers those plus outdoor tennis, swimming and racquetball for \$2,378 per year, according to a recent survey by Bay Area Consumers Checkbook.



GREGORY URQUIAGA/STAFF

THE CLUB ONE CHAIN scored high in customer satisfaction in the Checkbook survey. Forty-four percent of customers surveyed rated the Oakland Club One's "overall value for the money" as superior.

But there is not a strict relationship between price and facilities: The Lakeridge Athletic Club in El Sobrante offers the same facilities as Oakwood Athletic Club in Lafayette, plus outdoor tennis, and is nearly \$1,000 per year less for an individual, according to the Checkbook study.

And the correlation breaks down entirely when it comes to price and customer satisfaction, according to Kevin Brasler, managing editor of the Washington, D.C.-based non-profit consumer magazine.

"You would expect in the marketplace that the more expensive a service is, the more you get from it," he said. "In fact, it's just not true."

Only half of customers rated the quality of facilities and equipment as "superior" at the Harbor Bay Club versus 68 percent at the YMCA in Berkeley, which at \$831 a year is a little more than a third of the cost. YMCAs, although moderately priced, consistently rate high in customer satisfaction.

Before signing up, Brasler recommends consumers take advantage of the free passes that most gyms offer, go during the hours they would be using the gym, and ask existing members for feedback.

Differing tastes

Whether or not consumers are getting their money's worth is, of course, subjective.

Claudia Quevedo of San Ramon said 24 Hour Fitness is a great value. Because she travels frequently, Quevedo finds it convenient to be a member of a club with nationwide outlets.

But her boyfriend, Edward Conway, a former trainer, complained that 24 Hour Fitness is quick to pile on extra fees and that the gyms are too commercialized, unclear and crowded. He said they focus on selling memberships without considering the capacity of gyms, and bank on new members dropping out quickly.

"They get used to looking at you as a number," he said. "Get them in and get them out."

See FITNESS, Page C7

'Buried Child' reveals mad

"BURIED CHILD

Sam Shere's play, a two-weekend production at the Costa Civic Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave., El Cerrito.

The 1979 Pulitzer Prize-winning dark comedy (featuring Miller as Dodge, the alcoholic grandfather, Ehrlich as his son, wife, Halie, who goes drinking bouts with minister (played by Lee), and the two sons (Thomas Allen) and (Malcolm Rodden).

Into this mix comes (Mark LaRiviere), a whom none of them recognizes or remembers girlfriend Shelly (tonacci), who cannot comprehend the madness she is introduced to. Manske is directing.

"Buried Child" plays p.m. Fridays and 7 p.m. Sundays, through 13. Tickets are \$10 to \$24-9132.

MAYBECK DOES ACTS

Now let's see how wise and otherwise 7 p.m., Saturday at 7 p.m., the drama of Berkeley's Maybeck School takes over the Theatre. 1301 Shattuck, Berkeley, for their marathon of one-act

Thanks to an alert Kathie Fagan (mom) and Hedrick, Maybeck (2006), here's the chosen, directed, costumed, and tech on a bit of help from John Diller.

"The Battle of Britain" Makes Me Cry (ole Real); "Chopsticks" original piece by a man who goes by the name "English Made Simple" David Ives; and "The phia," also by Ives. Shorter plays make up the first half of the approximately two-hour running time.

The second half of Paul Sartre's "No Exit"

Tickets are \$15 for mission, \$10 for students.

IMPACT PULLS SWITCH

For Shattuck purists who still mull over "What the Fuck is going on here?" with Theatre's casting director, skinned African-American into a tizzy.

Daring? Definitely as you've never seen. Most likely. But this adapted and directed by Melissa Hillman, Impact's artistic director, is a brave and accessible work does justice to the story of the Moor without piling on for laughs.

Skyler Cooper and sinewy Othello Jackson brings a splash of humor to the dark vengeance of Marissa Keltie (Dante) and Bernadette (Emilia) also captures the tional turmoil of the

Hillman is no stranger to the Shakespeare canon. Last three years, she brought "Henry IV, Part 1," and now "Othello La Val's tiny black man — all worthy to wear the described mantle of the Moor without piling on for laughs.

"Othello" plays on Thursdays (pay what you wish), Fridays and Saturdays \$15 general, \$10 for students and TRA members. Through March 19 at Subterranean Theatre, 464-4468.

Reach Jack Tucker at tucker@cetimes.com 262-2768.

Friday Auto Plus

cars.com

Friday supplement to The Montclair, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, March 4, 2005

Section D

Volvo V50 T5 AWD Wagon: The all-weather Volvo for the small wagon buyer

BY JON ROSNER
STAFF WRITER

In the last few years Volvos have changed. Volvo has moved from the "boxy, but safe" style of the 1980s and 1990s to more curvy shapes that hint at Italian design. It's not too often when a big manufacturer like Ford, takes over a small company like Volvo, the products look like and function like the new parent company. In Volvo's case, it's credit, when Ford bought Volvo they gave the engineering berth and let them have the needed to stay competitive. The V50 is a product of that collaboration. Underneath that sleek wagon body is a chassis designed in Japan by Mazda in cooperation with Ford.

THROUGH THE GEARS

Inside, the interior is clearly European in design, elegant, but as simple to use as any Honda or Toyota. The seats are covered in a kid-proof cloth and look quite functional, and they fit beautifully, offering excellent upper and lower back support as well as firm but comfortable support for legs, hips and posterior. The same is true for the backseat. The rear section of the V50 Wagon offers greater useful space than most SUVs. The doors have heft, but close with a light touch. The turning radius is about the best I've seen, and made getting in and out of tight parking spaces quite easy. The real pleasure in the V50 comes with being behind the wheel. Part-throttle tip-in, the light touch used to move from a parking space or out of the driveway driveway was excellent. This is impressive as the V50 has a five-cylinder turbocharged engine.

Through town, on the back roads and on the highway the acceleration was smooth and brisk. With windows closed the interior was a quiet as a bank vault and I had to watch myself to keep from going faster than the normal fast flow of traffic. The ride is comfortable, but controlled, with fewer pot-hole inspired jolts coming through than I felt in driving the mid-size Japanese sedans that are designed more for comfort. It's hard to say whether it was the all-wheel drive or just good suspension design, but the handling was simply delightful on all the roads we used to test the V50. Acceleration, braking and maneuverability put the V50 Wagon near the top of the European car class for performance and near the lower end for price. Are there drawbacks? Yes, even though the five-speed automatic keeps the rpms down to between 1,500 and 2,500 under most conditions, the gas mileage came out to be the EPA city rating of 19 mpg. Over all, Volvo builds attractive, safe and durable vehicles and the V50 Wagon was pleasure to drive.



2005 VOLVO V50 T5 AWD WAGON is Volvo's entry in the small all-wheel drive wagon category.

Wednesday Night Drags' are back at the Infineon Raceway in Sonoma and everyone is welcome

BY JOHN CARDINALE

Infineon Raceway Relations
Infineon Raceway
Popular "Wednesday Night Drags" kicked off its 17th annual year at Infineon Raceway on March 2. The raceway will have gates almost every day night through Nov. 9 for anyone who would like to race the world-famous quarter-mile drag strip. The objective of the program is

to give people, from teenagers to working professionals to senior citizens, a safe, legal and controlled environment in which to race their vehicles, as opposed to using city streets or back-county roads. Most Wednesday nights gates open at 3:30 p.m., racing spans from 5 to 10 p.m. The season runs through Nov. 9 at the world-famous quarter-mile drag strip at Infineon Raceway. Anyone with a driver's license

can compete, providing their vehicle or motorcycle passes a simple technical inspection. All vehicles must have mufflers. Please refer to the rules and regulations at www.infineonraceway.com. The event attracts a varied crowd, including teenagers, mothers, working professionals and grandparents racing everything from Corvettes to mini-vans. Three-hundred cars are allowed to compete each Wednesday night. The

weekly event attracts an average of 900-1,200 people (competitors and spectators). An added bonus for high school students is the "Top the Cops" program. This will run in conjunction with the Wednesday Night Drags and offers high school students the chance to race against local law enforcement officers, who will be driving their squad cars. The program is designed to help deter illegal racing

VOLVO V50 T5 AWD WAGON

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger all-wheel drive small wagon
Suggested Retail	\$28,910
Price as Tested	\$33,290
Engine Type	turbocharged DOHC 20-valve, 2.5-liter 5 cylinder w/MPFI
Horsepower	218 at 5,000 rpm
Torque	236 from 1,500 to 4,800 rpm
Transmission	Five-speed automatic
Wheelbase	104 inches
Height	57 inches
Curb Weight	3,399 pounds
Fuel Capacity	15 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 19/26

off the streets and bring it to a safe, legal and controlled environment. This portion of the program will not begin until May 4. Cost is \$20 competitors, \$15 for students with their high school identification card, \$10 spectators. For more information, call 800-870-RACE or visit www.infineon-raceway.com.

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The Nowickis' 1974 Ford Gran Torino Elite becomes a keeper

BY VERN PARKER
MOTOR MATTERS

After the better part of three decades, Walter Nowicki has finally absorbed his wife Ethel's message that there is no need to fix something that isn't broken.

The energy crunch of 1973 had just passed and gasoline prices had settled down by 1974 when the Nowickis, of Hamilton, N.J., decided to buy a brand new car. They wanted style and safety foremost, and after looking over the foreign and domestic automotive offerings that year, settled on a top-of-the-line 1974 Ford Gran Torino Elite hardtop coupe with a formal, upright grille.

"The Elite struck our eye and we knew this is what we wanted," Nowicki says. At the nearby Ford dealership they found a handsome Torino with a long engine hood and a short deck, which was fitted in the finest Thunderbird tradition, including cushioned blue vinyl protective strips the length of the car.

A sheet of blue vinyl covers the roof of the otherwise white Ford and wraps down around the dual

CLASSIC CLASSICS

opera windows on either side of the car to the beltline.

Ford had set the base price of the Gran Torino Elite hardtop coupe at \$4,437, but of course, most buyers want additional cost optional extras, as did the Nowickis. Their car was priced somewhat north of \$5,000, Nowicki recalls. A total of 96,604 such models were manufactured with the hardtop coupe models riding on a 114-inch wheelbase.

The couple settled into the decidedly upscale blue interior, fired up the V8 engine and motored home. As the years passed, the car took the family on many vacations. When at home, it served as the family bus. "It has never let me down," Nowicki states affirmatively.

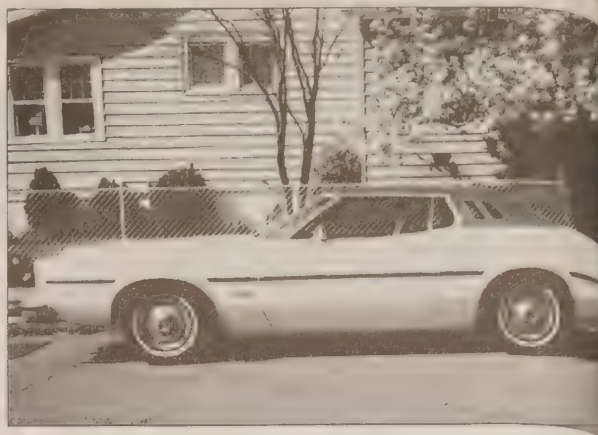
Back in the days when Richard Nixon was president and the Elite was new, many motorists kept their cars only a few years before trading them for new models. That's exactly what Nowicki attempted to do,

until he ran head-on into determined wifely resistance.

"I suggested to my wife that it was time to trade the Elite for a newer car," he recalls. She responded, "I'm not having any problems with the Ford, so why look for trouble?" That same basic exchange occurred periodically during the next quarter century, until he finally got the message that she was very content with her Ford.

"Everything on it is original except the wear items," Nowicki says. "It has power steering, wheel-lip moldings, wraparound taillights, power front disc brakes, Selectshift automatic transmission, air conditioner, AM/FM stereo radio, bumper guards, body side vinyl stripes and seat belts."

Nowicki believes that what has helped keep the Elite in like-new condition after all these years is that his three children were grown when the car was purchased. More important is the fact that the Ford was always parked under a carport, which kept the sun from making direct contact. Consequently, he says, "The interior is like-new."



WHEN THE NOWICKIS decided to buy a brand new car, the 1974 Ford Gran Torino Elite caught their eye and they knew that was the car they wanted.

The latest attack on the car consists of exuberant grandchildren. But even young children know the 31-year-old car is special and they warn one another: "That's grandmom's car." The body-on-frame construction of the heavy (2-ton) Elite has always provided security. "It rides nice and smooth," Nowicki says, "and we

feel more secure."

The original full wheel covers remain unblemished and add sparkle to the white sidewall 15-inch tires whenever the Nowickis decide to go cruising.

The odometer has recorded more than 80,000 miles, and like virtually everything else on the car, continues to work flawlessly. Nowicki no

longer asks of his wife if she would like a new car every week I give a brief details and pictures of the Classic Classics. Vern Parker, 2221 Adams Vienna, VA 22181. Good quality will be

Racecar owners get in touch with their inner Andretti

BY NICK KURCZEWSKI
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Many vintage racecars spend decades hidden from the world, condemned to exist as four-wheel paperweights because of their immense value — historical as well as monetary — and raucous road manners.

Some collectors, though, view their pedigree racecars as living histories, not static investments, and exercise them on the road and on the racetrack as often as possible.

Jim Glickenhaus, an investment portfolio manager from Rye, N.Y., has

a collection that includes a stately Duesenberg from the 1930s and a tiny jewel of a Ferrari built in 1947. But he spends much of his free time with racing sports cars from the mid-1960s.

The cars are insured and licensed for road use, and driven regularly throughout the Northeast. Each car undergoes an annual safety inspection as required by New York state, though they are exempt from emissions tests because of their age.

During a visit to his workshop in Danbury, Conn., Glickenhaus,

thumbs hooked into his jean pockets, explained the history of each car in lively detail. First on the tour was a vibrant yellow Ford GT40 Mk IV, a car that qualified on the pole for the 24 Hours of Le Mans endurance race in 1967 and was driven to a fourth-place finish by Mark Donohue and Bruce McLaren.

Glickenhaus has driven the thundering treasure some 25,000 miles in the 15 years he has owned it, using it for local Sunday drives and weekend treks, including one to Vermont where he found himself caught in a snowstorm. "It got a lit-

tle squirrely," he said. "But it kept going."

Then there is a Ferrari 330 P3/4 — in red, of course. Glickenhaus believes this Ferrari is also a veteran of the 1967 Le Mans race, a car thought to have been destroyed in a fire. He pulled out pages of documentation as his mechanic, Salvatore Barone, tended to the car's extensive maintenance routine.

Glickenhaus beamed when he described the experience of driving the onetime-Le Mans competitor. "You start 'em up, strap yourself in

and it's just like you're at Le Mans," he said. "You don't have to drive like an idiot because at legal speeds they feel so cool."

Surprisingly few modifications are necessary to drive these cars on the street. Until the late 1960s, the rules for premier sports car events like the 24 Hours of Le Mans dictated modest concessions for use on public roads (and a handful of road-legal GT40s were produced in the 1960s). The requirements included a passenger seat, room for luggage and even a spare tire and jack. Beyond the legal necessities of mufflers and

required lighting including exhausts, GT40 needed cooling fans and a high electrical system for the pit lane to toll plaza.

Value becomes a factor to some collectors when in the context of their collection. Glickenhaus has no when asked, estimation to \$6 million would be a similar comparison to your driveway. The authenticated as a Le Mans, would be worth more.

But he quickly means his cars, to use museum, are a permanent "I've never sold a collector owned," he said. "These cars are not being

Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution MR is built for performance

BY TOM KEANE
MOTOR MATTERS

Looking for great performance from a sedan that can run circles around other fast cars? Get behind the wheel of the 2005 Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution MR.

The Evolution could cause a revolution in how manufacturers assemble fast cars. This car is loaded with handling features that allowed me to "take off" on whatever runway I happened to be driving.

The Lancer Evolution MR has a six-speed close ratio manual shift transmission that provides excellent performance from its small engine. Under the hood is a 2.0-liter inline intercooled turbocharged engine that produces 276 horsepower and 286 foot pounds of torque. That's powerful considering the car has only four cylinders. It's rated 19 miles per gallon city and 26-mpg highway. They're respectable numbers for a car that moves as fast as the Lancer Evolution MR moves — which was the model I tested.

There are three 2005 Lancer Evolutions: the RS, VIII and MR. All are built for speed, but the top-of-the-line MR contains all the bells and whistles.

What Mitsubishi told me is they focused on several handling- and ride enhancing features. For example, the Evolution has a lightweight aluminum roof panel and is designed with a lower center of gravity, which really enables it to hold the road. They also added Bilstein monotube shock absorbers to reduce roll movement and improve the car's road-holding ability. In addition, the Lancer Evolution has all-wheel drive.

Mitsubishi also developed an Active Center Differential and helical-style limited-slip differential, which they claim creates "a more natural, better mannered driving feel." These two mechanical combinations raise the performance level of the turbocharged sedan. There's no doubt in my mind, the Evolution MR is a delight when it comes to handling.

The MR has very lightweight forged aluminum alloy wheels holding 17-inch tires that gives it an attractive appearance. But the appearance that really sets the MR off as a fast car is the large rear deck spoiler that provides effective down force on the rear.

Inside this \$35,594 sedan, it's obvious that the MR is a performance sports car, as there are three large ring gauges with the tachometer having the prominent central position. The MR revs its engine so quickly; it is best to keep an eye on this instrument.

Other appointments are a shiny aluminum shift knob, brake lever handle and aluminum pedals. The instrumentation is quite understandable and straightforward. The compact MR has loads of interior room and included a remote key-

KEANE ON WHEELS

less entry system, as well as power windows, door locks and mirrors.

In the center dash is a 315-watt

Infinity audio system that includes a trunk-mounted sub-woofer. Incidentally, the interior noise level inside this sedan is slightly higher compared to other cars. But when this powerful audio system was playing at normal sound levels, the unwanted noise couldn't be

heard.

Not only did the engineers and designers reduce the weight in the roof, they used lightweight alu-

minum impact bars in the doors, instead of steel. Keeping the weight down was important. Nevertheless, the curb weight is 3,285 pounds, which is not exceptionally light compared to other cars in its class.

All three models are equipped

with the latest safety components, including immobilizer that serves as a theft device. I suspect manufacturers will try to duplicate the engineering to boost the performance of their

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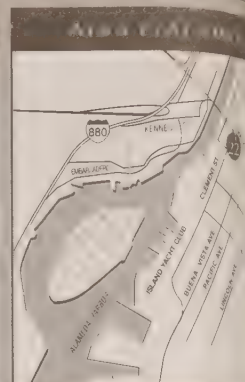
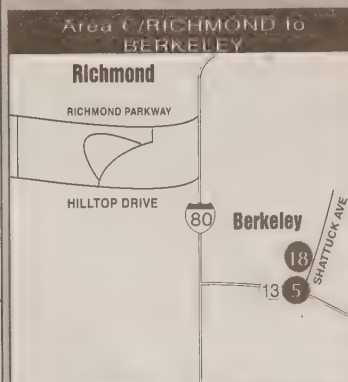
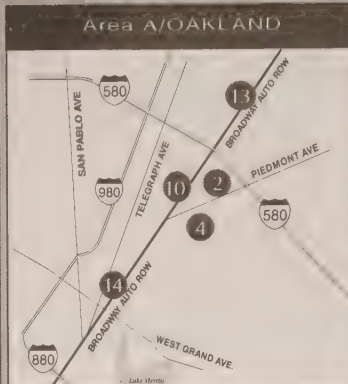
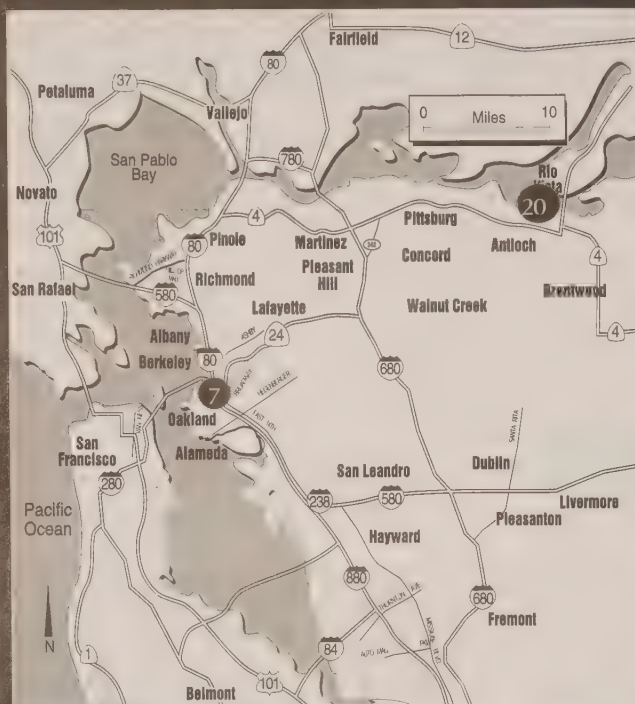
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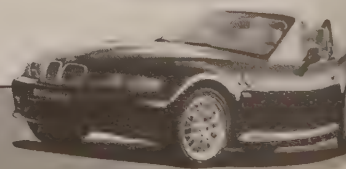
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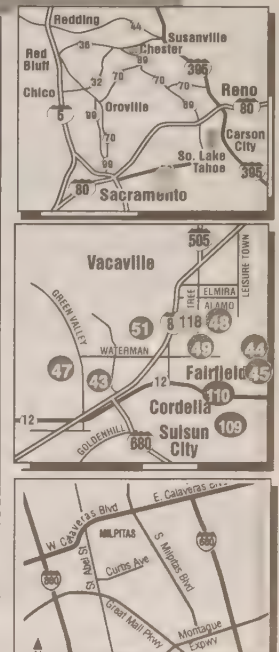
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Aria Models are Now Open! From the \$1,000,000s. Nestled within the Green Valley estate's beautiful oak-studded hillside, Aria is an elegant new home collection offering a sophisticated standard of living. Here, discriminating townhomes will redefine the classic Northern California approach to homes, along with the best of custom-built homes that offer up to 7 bedrooms, 2600 to 3565 sq. ft., and homesites that maximize views of the surrounding natural beauty. This is the good life. 707-864-1555. www.classichomes.com

27 Eastridge Hills
Large View Homesites! From the high \$900,000s. Located in the heart of the Eastridge Hills, these homesites offer one-half acre Valley views and oak-studded hillside. Designs from approximately 3178 to 4588 sq. ft. with 3 to 6 bedrooms and up to 5.5 baths, many with 4 car garages. Customized with open concepts and designer upgrades. Eastridge Hills is a new community of homesites, open daily from 10-5. 707-864-0251. www.homesites.com

28 Paradise Crest
From the high \$500,000s. Nestled in the rolling hills, this new community of single-family homes offers a sophisticated standard of living. Here, discriminating townhomes will redefine the classic Northern California approach to homes, along with the best of custom-built homes that offer up to 7 bedrooms, 2600 to 3565 sq. ft., and homesites that maximize views of the surrounding natural beauty. This is the good life. 707-864-1555. www.classichomes.com

OAKLAND

29 Harborwalk in Oakland
From the mid \$500,000s. A collection of contemporary townhomes and flats by Signature Properties located overlooking the Oakland waterfront. Plans (850-1342) sq. ft. 1-4 bedrooms offer dramatic living areas, beautifully appointed kitchens, private patios, and outdoor entertainment areas. Open house on Saturday 10-5. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

30 Bayview Crest - SPECTACULAR BAY VIEWS
From the high \$900,000s. Located just off the Oakland Hills, this stunning view of San Francisco Bay. Proven Properties, Inc. presents their finest new two-story detached 2,460 sq. ft. homes. Beautifully appointed with granite countertops, custom cabinetry, and high quality carpet. Open from 12-4 on Sat. and Sun. at 2424 Skyline Ct., Hayward. Hwy 880 to Keller and turn left on Skyline Blvd. For more information, please call 510-465-8888.

OAKLEY

31 Briarwood
Open for information! Outstanding home, open floor plans designed for contemporary lifestyles, and an impressive list of features and amenities. Convenient location, close to shopping, dining, and recreation. Open house on Saturday 10-5. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

32 Parklands
From the \$400,000s. Beautiful single family homes. Models now open. One and two story 3 to 5 bedroom plans from 1710 to 2723 sq. ft. in Oakley off Highway 1 (Main Street) just off Laurel Road, just off of the 101. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

33 Monarch Ranch
From the high \$400,000s to the low \$500,000s. Seize the opportunity to own a new home in the Monarch Ranch community. Monarch Ranch features spacious single family homes ranging from approximately 1,785 - 4,412 sq. ft. to 6 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. Optional 3rd and 4th bedrooms, wetlands, and bonus rooms are also available. These spacious plans offer huge great rooms, gourmet kitchens, and luxurious master bedrooms. Monarch Ranch offers the very best in new home amenities. 925-511-8019.

PATTERSON

34 The Reserve at Diablo Grande
From the mid \$600,000s. Luxury golf course-homesite on renowned Diablo Grande Ranch Golf Course. Spectacular 2,955 to 3,465 sq. ft. single and double story homes, 3-4 bedrooms, large lots, and views of the vineyards and mountain views. Model showcase open daily 10:00am to 6:00pm. (209) 885-7000. Visit us at www.PrivateReserve.com

PITTSBURG

35 Valencia at San Marco
From the upper \$500,000s. Discovery Homes' newest master planned community, Valencia at San Marco is set in the rolling hills of Pittsburg, with breathtaking views of the Delta watersheds. This fabulous neighborhood offers homes that range from 2,303 to 3,836 sq. ft. featuring 3 to 7 bedrooms, and up to 4 bathrooms. An ideal location for commuters. San Marco offers close proximity to North Concord BART, Bay Point BART and Hwy 4. Please call 925-461-1000 for more information.

36 Capistrano at Oak Hill
From the high \$500,000s. Almost Sold Out. Located just minutes away from Pittsburg BART, North Concord BART and Hwy 4, Capistrano, by Discovery Homes, offers its residents one of the most convenient communities located in Contra Costa County. 1785 to 3212 sq. ft. of exquisite living space, featuring 3 to 7 bedrooms and up to 3.5 bathrooms. With spacious great rooms, gourmet kitchens, and luxurious master bedrooms. Capistrano offers the very best in a new home amenities. Please call 925-461-1000 for more information.

SAN MARCO

37 Serrano at San Marco
From the mid \$500,000s. Almost Sold Out. Welcome to Contra Costa's newest master planned community, by Discovery Homes. This fabulous neighborhood offers homes that range from 1870 to 3246 sq. ft. featuring 3 to 7 bedrooms, up to 4 bathrooms, and views overlooking the San Joaquin Delta. An ideal location for commuters. San Marco offers close proximity to North Concord BART, Bay Point BART and Hwy 4. Please call 925-461-1000 for more information.

38 Highlands Ranch
From the low \$500,000s. Bay Area's Best Buy. Single family homes with plans ranging from 1734 to 4500 sq. ft. 3 to 5 bedrooms, 2.5 to 3.5 bathrooms, 2.5 car garages. Open house on Saturday 10-5. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

39 Heritage Pointe
Priced from the low \$400,000s. Excellent neighborhood of elegant homes in convenient Pittsburg location near Hwy 4. Impressive collection of three-story townhome designs from 1,820 to 3,352 sq. ft. with 4 & 5 bedrooms, 2.5 & 3.5 baths. Modernized. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

40 Harbor Lights II
Priced from the low \$400,000s. Now Open! Traditional neighborhood of single-family homes in convenient Pittsburg location near Hwy 4. Impressive collection of three-story townhome designs from 1,820 to 3,352 sq. ft. with 4 & 5 bedrooms, 2.5 & 3.5 baths. Modernized. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

PLEASANTON

41 Westridge at Lemoine Ranch Estates
From the mid \$1,000,000s. Grand Opening! 12 new elegant homes overlooking the Tassajara Road. 2,500 to 3,100 sq. ft. with amazing homesites up to 2.5 acres. Open house on Saturday 10-5. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

42 Pheasant Ridge
From the mid \$1,000,000s. Models Now Open! These one and two-story, 5 to 6 bedrooms and 4 to 6 baths luxury residences feature 3,100 to 4,500 sq. ft. of elegant living space with 3 car garages. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

43 Sycamore Heights
Now SELLING in PLEASANTON. Prices from the mid \$700,000s. Sycamore Heights by Summit Homes offers exclusive homes with up to 5 bedrooms and 5.5 baths in up to approximately 3,000 square feet of homesites averaging one-third acre with exquisite views and just minutes from downtown Pleasanton. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

44 Bordeaux
From the high \$1,000,000s. Experience the rich rewards of wine country living at Bordeaux Country Estates. Located in Pleasanton's wine country, 11 elegant homes feature up to 5 bedrooms and 4.2 bathrooms and range in size from 3,650 to 4,650 square feet on homesites up to 16,000 square feet. Located off of Walnut Ave. in Pleasanton. Make it at Machado Place. Sales office open daily from 10 AM to 5 PM. For more information call (925) 850-8288 or visit www.greentransitions.com

RICHMOND

45 Augusta at Country Club Vista
From the upper \$700,000s. Augusta offers 4-5 bedroom homes with up to 3,500 sq. ft., next to the Richmond Country Club. SCS Development Company. Open daily, 10am-5pm. 510-665-0473. www.scsdevelopment.com

46 Seaciff at Point Richmond
From the upper \$700,000s. This luxurious waterfront community offers the new combination of luxury location and lifestyle features. Single-family homes with spectacular views of the San Francisco Bay and overlooking the Richmond Yacht Club. This new community has local charm and beauty and features a new water park and open space. Open daily 10-5. 510-244-8900. www.kalifornia.com

SACRAMENTO

47 Fairways at Country Club Vista
From the mid \$500,000s. Country Club Vista's premier address, is now offering 3 and 4 bedroom family residences at Fairways, the master planned community's newest neighborhood. Well crafted floor plans up to 1,722 square feet giving families space with maximum value. Richmond Country Club and golf course, shopping, restaurants and Contra Costa State Park are just a short drive away. Take Richmond Parkway west, turn left on Adams Road. Open Wed.-Mon. 10am-5pm. (916) 840-0442. Santa Clara Valley Housing Group. www.schp.com

48 Summit at Fountain Grove
From the mid \$500,000s. Now Selling. West Sacramento home buyers will want to visit this community offering proximity to new shopping centers, the American River, and community pools. 2,678 to 3,178 sq. ft. featuring 3 to 4 bedrooms and 2.5 to 3.5 bathrooms. Please call 925-461-1000 for more information.

SANTA ROSA

49 Summit at Fountain Grove
From the mid \$500,000s. Now Selling. West Sacramento home buyers will want to visit this community offering proximity to new shopping centers, the American River, and community pools. 2,678 to 3,178 sq. ft. featuring 3 to 4 bedrooms and 2.5 to 3.5 bathrooms. Please call 925-461-1000 for more information.

SAN PABLO

50 Abella Villas
From the low \$400,000s. Distinguished Mission-style 4 & 3-bedroom single-family homes with open floor plans. 1,000-1,400 sq. ft. with direct access to 1 and 2 car garages. Convenient to I-805, BART, Amtrak and recreation. To view call 410 El Portal in Danville. Turn left at Road 200 and right on Carmel St. Visit today! For information call (916) 236-8213 or go to www.sagip.com.
- ### SAN RAMON

51 Norris Canyon Estates
From the mid \$500,000s. Exclusive gated-golf community in a magnificent hillside location in the heart of San Ramon Valley. These homes feature majestic two-story homes, hardwood floors, gourmet kitchens, master bedrooms, sunlit family rooms, private pools, and over 100,000 sq. ft. of landscaped grounds from 3600 to over 6000 sq. ft. Five models open daily 10-5. 925-474-1000. www.norramonrealty.com

52 Gale Ranch
From the low \$500,000s to mid \$1,000,000s. Shapell offers an exceptional living experience within this established master-planned golf course community. 3 neighborhoods now open with 2 coming soon. 18 models to tour in a variety of styles and price ranges. Floor plans range from approx. 1465 sq. ft. to 5028 sq. ft. with up to 5 BR and 4.5 BA. VIP sales 925-267-0001. Coronado 925-248-0136. Monarch 925-248-0112. Gateway 925-967-0013. The Pointe 925-735-1517. Sales office 925-248-1777. www.shapell.com

STOCKTON

53 Blossom Ranch
From the mid \$400,000s. Affordable single family homes offer 4 to 6 bedrooms with up to 2851 sq. ft. Open daily 10:00am to 5pm, closed Tuesdays. 209-477-5453. www.ahandhomes.com

SUISUN

54 The Classics at Peterson Ranch
Priced from the low \$400,000s. New elegant plans, 1501 to 2800 sq. ft. 3 and 4 bedrooms, some with 2nd floors. Open daily 10-5. 209-639-6871. www.ahandhomes.com

55 Duck Creek
From the upper \$400,000s. Award-winning master-planned community of affordable single-family homes. 3 and 4 bedrooms with up to 1800 sq. ft. These well-designed floor plans have many amenities and upgraded features. Lots of options are available in some plans. To find out more, call the Duck Creek Sales Office at 205 Valley View. Open daily 10-5. 209-639-6871. www.ahandhomes.com

VACAVILLE

56 The Villages II and the Cottages II at Redbridge
From the mid \$500,000s. Cottages II features two charming floor plans, 1,945-2,225 sq. ft. with up to 4 beds and 2.5 baths. Village II features three unique plans in 2,368-3,000 sq. ft. with 4-5 beds and 2.5 to 3.5 bathrooms. All homes feature up to 4,447 sq. ft. 4-5 beds and 2.5 to 3.5 bathrooms. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

57 Mountain House
From the high \$500,000s. Spectacular new home town, planned with the best of yesterday and brightest of tomorrow in mind. Now showing the first 3 new neighborhoods of this exciting new lifestyle 3 to 5 bedroom homes from 1,817 to 3,212 sq. ft. www.mountainhouse.net

VALLEJO

58 The Orchards
Now Selling in Vallejo! The Orchards at Hildebrooke, single-family homes. Spacious floor plans, 2,151-3,112 sq. ft., 3-5 bedrooms. Lots, 2-car garages, and two Master Suites (per plan). Located in the heart of Vallejo, this master-planned community features golf course, clubhouse, pool and gym. Convenient to I-80 and the San Francisco Ferry shopping destinations. Solano County Fairgrounds, San Diego County Fairgrounds, and the Vallejo Golf Course. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

59 Seaport Village Condominiums
From the mid \$300,000s. Close-out Special-\$5,000. Closing Call Credit! Secluded and peaceful bayfront townhomes priced to sell in a charming community. 1,480 sq. ft. 2 bed, 2.5 bath, fireplace, vaulted ceilings, washer/dryer in unit with 1-car garage. Amazing location near ferry, SF ferry, shopping destinations. Open Sat. & Sun. 10-5pm. 2300 Sea Crest Circle, Vallejo. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

60 Sycamore Place
Priced from the mid \$400,000s. Now selling in Vallejo! Sycamore Place Single-family detached homes in dynamic downtown area. Approx. 1,404-2,453 sq. ft. Close to shopping, restaurants, Solano County Fairgrounds, San Diego County Fairgrounds. Please contact us at Hwy 80, SF Ferry and Napa Valley. Call (707) 646-1533. www.orchard.com. D.R. Horton, America's Builder.

61 Marina Estates
From the low \$1,000,000s. Waterfront homes at Glen Cove. 3-5 bedroom houses. 3062 to 3769 sq. ft. 3 bedrooms. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

62 The Lakes
From the \$500,000s. Discovery Bay's First Grand New Home. Exclusive single-family homes ranging in size from 1,971 to 4,724 sq. ft. with 3-4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. Call 925-461-1000 for more information.

Rentals EASY BAY

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www.contrac.com

Pittsburg Homes

4BD/3BA, Oak Hills, view, 3 min to BART, \$2300 510-685-8379

NICE 4BD/2BA, no pets, no sect. \$1,600 mo. **MOVE-IN BONUS** 978-778-0680

Pittsburg 3b/2ba home, yard appliances, tile, \$1500 (925)963-5065

Pleasant Hill Homes

2BD/1BA \$1250 + dep. New CRT & bath No pets, no sect. \$1,100-8834

3BD/1BA Greg. Grdn. RV parking. Remod. single yd \$1500 925-938-8318

Yd/1BA Pool/yd maint incl. lot quiet nrhnd Pet ok. 916-837-9845

2BD/2BA new pnt./crt. nr dwnth. cent heat & AC \$1680 925-330-2404

4BD new pnt./crt. New floor tiles \$2000 925-9129 Sec. 8 ok. 415-258-9129

Pleasant Hill Homes

4BD/2BA clean new, char. appliances, AC, pnt. \$2150, 45 Deerhaven Pl. Oaks 31/4, Lynda 925-542-0532

830 Osborne Lane, 4 b/2 b, very quiet nrhnd, no pets. \$1,750/mo. (925)698-8424

Pleasanton Homes

\$1675 Dup. 3BD/2BA, 2 gr. new CRT pnt./yrd. Nice loc 925-846-3615

2BD/1BA 2nd St. New KIT/Bath. 2nd floor. Cent heat/AC. Refrig. W/d. 3 car. garage. Call \$2200 925-946-9351

2BD/2BA Mohr. Applis. Nonsm. No pet. \$1795 + dep. 925-285-5463

3BD/2BA 2000 sq. clean, floor tiles \$2000 925-9129 Sec. 8 ok. 415-258-9129

Pleasanton Homes

3BD/2BA 2 car. garage, pnt./yrd. No pets nonsm. \$1900. Call 925-417-7900

2BD/2BA close to dwnth. quiet nrhnd. \$1850 925-866-122

3BD/2BA-Fam Rm Sunny & Bright. Call 925-846-6084

3BD/1BA 2332 PINE ST. \$1250/mo. New paint & carpet. 510-367-6310

3BD/1BA 405 South 15th St. 1bdy firs. \$1250 + dep. 510-620-7031

2BD/1BA new kit & tile. 610/Barratt. WTR. & garb. pnt. 925-551-8563

2BD/1BA 2332 PINE ST. \$1250/mo. New paint & carpet. 510-367-6310

Richmond Homes

2BD/1BA 3040 Florida Ave. kit. applis. 1 car garb. pnt. 925-1786

2BD/1BA N.E. Like New! Stove & Fridge. Small Yard. 1 car gar. \$1,175 + Dep. No Sect. 925-251-2516

2BD/1BA W/D hkup. refrig. garb. pnt. 925-1786

3BD/1BA 2332 PINE ST. \$1250/mo. New paint & carpet. 510-367-6310

3BD/1BA 405 South 15th St. 1bdy firs. \$1250 + dep. 510-620-7031

2BD/1BA new kit & tile. 610/Barratt. WTR. & garb. pnt. 925-551-8563

2BD/1BA 2332 PINE ST. \$1250/mo. New paint & carpet. 510-367-6310

Richmond Homes

2BD/2BA 2715 Sheldon Ct. \$1700 New pnt./crt. Sec. 8 ok. Gd. loc. 510-367-6310

2BD/2BA 2car. w/d. refrig. no pets. \$1550 925-551-8563

2BD/2BA N.E. sun rm. w/d. car. \$1850/mo. Call 925-251-2516

2BD/2BA Duplex. New cpt. & tile. 610/Barratt. WTR. & garb. pnt. 925-551-8563

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Rodeo Homes

4BD/2BA ba. remod. 1p. yd. gr. area. 2100sf \$2100. 510-701-7685

San Pablo Homes

1BD/1BA 1 car. no pets. 1g. kit. \$1500. 510-701-7685

2BD/2BA 2 frcs. \$1750. 2738 17th St. Sec. 8 OK. 925-432-3310

2BD/2BA Frc. pnt. \$1500/mo. Avail. 4/1. 510-701-7430

2BD/2BA Indrv. Inside. Sect. 8 ok. \$1500. utlis. Incl. call 925-758-1210

TARA HILLS 4BD/2BA \$1800/mo. \$2K dep. 510-724-8617

Rodeo Homes

3BD/2BA W/D, refrig. micro. \$1510/mo. Avail. 4/1. 510-701-7430

3BD/2BA 2220sf. 1yr old. Shappell. W/d/grnd. \$2495/mo. 925-336-0805

San Ramon Homes

2BD/2BA 2 car. gar. A/C frc. 9676 Del Mar Dr \$1850. 925-829-2672

2BD/2BA Beauti fl yd grnd/rv parking. 1p. w/creek setting! Lg. rms. New tile/cpt. Updated fresh pnt. & newer cprt. \$1750/mo. 925-837-3887

2BD/2BA SUNNYVALE! \$1995/mo. 925-556-0707

4BD/2BA 1900sf. AC w/d looks like a model new before rented 1yr. \$2300 925-831-8310

4BD/2BA 2300 sf. All mod. New! Breathak ing golf view \$2500. 418-408-2044

4BD/2BA 3300 sf. New 93 Windemere cabs. 1000sf. 3 car gar. Open 2/27. 12-20pm \$3300. 925-348-1900

4BD/2BA gorgeous, 1p. \$2100 925-831-8310

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The Largest
Garage Sale Listings in
The East Bay.

REACHING OVER 190,000 HOMES

Garage Sale

CALL
1-800-733-3933

Antioch MOVING SALE SAT. Sat. 10-1pm 904 Gloucester Ct. Off G St. CA King Bdrm, furn., exercise equip, hshld. items, clothes, kitchen- ware, lamps, etc. MOVING SALE Sat. 10-1pm Couch, entertainment center, furniture, exer- cise equipment, baby items & misc. hshld. 1500 Paul Ct. (Harris to Melissa to Paul Ct.) MULTI-FAMILY SALE! Misc hshld, boys mens womens all in clothes, refrig & more! Rains shine! No Early Birds! Sat 3/5 & 8 am-2 3413 Tabor Drive Off James Donlon Blvd. TWO ESTATE SALES 120 & 124 Pleasant Pl. Sat. only, March 5th. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Jewelry, yarn, electron- ics, and misc items. YARD SALE Fri/Sat/Sun 8-3pm Lg. section of cloth- ing, shoes, knick knacks, kit. ware & a whole lot more. 1717 PUTNAM STREET Berkeley MOVING SALE! 2959 HILLEGASS AVE. Btwn. Ashby/Webster Sat. 3/5, 9AM-3PM Lots of misc. household items Bethel Island MOVING SALE Hshld. furn., Zodiac boat & motor, anti- ques, tools & more etc. Thur. 3/3 - Sun 3/6 By Appt. Only. 925-994-9431 Brentwood FRI/SAT 9am-4pm New & used items. 753 CASTLE COURT Take Dainly to Lincoln to Castie Court Discovery Bay Garage Sale 1710 Riverbank Rd Sat. 2/05: 8:30-4:30 Antiques, tables, chrs. furniture galore Everything Must Go!	Brentwood HUGE MULTIFAM. SALE SAT. 8 to 7:33 Tradi- tion Wyl Tons of Great stuff! Appl. baby Bikes, Bldg materials, Cameras, collectibles, Computer, Garden, Household Kitchen clths, Musical inst. tools, Sport stuff, Stereo, 1915, Toys, Edu- cational Makeups, New items, Off Balfour btwn Garin pkwy/sellers. Providence tract. MULTI FAMILY SALE SAT 3/5 8am to 2pm 1250 Merlon Ct. In Shadow Lakes, East Country Club to Caddy We've got everything! NEIGHBORHOOD SALE Sun. Only, 7am-2pm. Clothes, crafts, toys, household items 813 Allen Ct. (Balfour to Walden to Allen) In Garin Ranch Clayton EVERYTHING GONE! Sat. March 5th Only! 9-1pm, 309 Coal Mine Court (Clayton Rd. to Center, L-Gold Rush -Coal Mine) Hshld. clothes, items, with car bds, toys & kids books Concord ESTATE-GAR. SALE Thurs. Sat. 3/5, 10-5 3222 Sherrill Pl. Btwn Cowell/Clayton Off Coventry Antiques, collectibles 82 Cad., 89 Lincoln & 76 Honda (mtrcycle) 925-798-7085 FAMILY SALE SAT & SUN 9-3PM 1512 Tallman Way Off Clayton Rd. SAT & SUN 9-3PM Kitchen tbl, Queen mattress, hshld items, pictures & MISC stuff! No Early Birds! MOVING/GARAGE SALE 2982 Willow Pass Road SAT 3/5 10-4PM Furniture, refrig, coffee table, old desk, wallpaper, misc. hse hold items. Pls. park In Courthouse next dr. MOVING/GARAGE SALE Sat. 3/5: 7 - 3pm 5255 Phillips Place Toys, kitchenware, ACME juicer, furn., computers, plants, comp. table, framed posters. Yvonne & Phillips Pl	Concord MOVING Sale Sat. 3/5 7am - 3pm 4073 Essex Ct. Appliances Bdrm. furn. Coffee tbl, computer equip. Furn. Kitchen- Ware Ltv. rm. furn. Men's clothes Sport- wds. Stereo TV Ping-pong table, wall- to-wall stereo MOVING SALE MULTI FAMILY/ MOVING SALE Must sell everything. Spo. bds, couches, dresser, McCoy pottery, etc. SAT 3/5 8am to 3pm 3737 Meridian Dr. Don't Miss This Sat 3/5/05 @ 8AM 1592 Mendocino Drive Clothes Baby Items Bdrm. Furn. Glassware Hshld. Items, Kitchen- ware Toys & misc. SAT 3/5 8am to 4pm 3109 Concord Blvd. 40 in. color TV, oak TV stand, desk, etc. toys, some clothes, lamps, toaster, and more. SAT & SUN 9-5 2833 SINCLAIR AVE Behind Long's Concord Bk. furn., clothing, dishes, hshld. items, books garden tools & more! Danville HAVING A BOY! Lots of hsh. little girl items must go! Maternity clothes, like new Peg Perego stroller, log- ging stroller, full mat- set, patio set, furn., home decor, do-ped, etc. Contact us: 805 Valley Ct. Fri/Sat. 8am. MOVING SALE 608 Tunbridge rd Off Sycamore Sat/Sun, 9:00 - 4:00 Most Items Like new! Discovery Bay Garage Sale 1710 Riverbank Rd Sat. 2/05: 8:30-4:30 Antiques, tables, chrs. furniture galore Everything Must Go!	Dublin Garage Sale Saturday 3/5, 8-1pm 11784 dillington Wy some antiques, books & videos, all dresser/ clothing, phonics hshld. items, some housewares, & more El Sobrante BIG CLEARANCE SALE! Sat. 3/5, 9-4pm 5699 Torrey Pine Ct. 100 Hls. Ctr. San Pablo Dam Rd. Misc. Hm & Items, 5699, Drill Press, Chi- nese, Videos, Jewel- ry, Furn., And More! MOVING SALE 2547 Parra Dr Lots of great stuff! Furniture, sporting goods & much more! Hercules FAMILY SALE 100 Hls. Ctr. (Cra. St. Iris Rd.) SAT ONLY 9-1pm HOUSEHOLD GOODS & COLLECTIBLES MISC. & MUCH MORE! Lafayette MULTI-FAMILY SALE 1600 SPRINGBROOK RD. (OFF Pleasant Hill Rd.) SAT ONLY 9-2PM Household items, old equip., kit. ware, col- lectibles, rugs, books, video games, MISC. Martinez CLEANING OUT ATTIC! Easter items, toys, puzzles, videos, books, collectibles, sports figures, glass- ware, Boyd Bears, or- naments, Toyota whls. Fri & Sat. 8am-4pm. 2218 Lake Oaks Ct. DON'T MISS THIS! MULTI-FAMILY SALE @4619 Tahoe Dr. SAT. 3/5 9-2PM Old windows, coffee grinders, antique hatch (Bauer), TOO MUCH TO LIST! HUGE YARD SALE SATURDAY 8am-4pm 3796 PACHECO BLVD. Garden Vintage items, country & collectibles & much more! CLASSIFIED RESULTS	Martinez MOVING SALE! Saturday, 8-1pm 3773 Serrano St. (Alhambra to H St.) Toys, hshld items, clothing, beds, ceram- ics, hshld items Everything Must Go! "SAILING" WITH HUMOR Sat. 3/5, 7AM-NOON Leather, Hm, & More! Call me we have it at 925-313-0186 Moraga MULTI-FAMILY SALE March 5, 7-12 19 Arroyo Drive Bdrm. furn. Bookcase Books Collectibles Din. rm. furn. Furn. hshld. items, lamps Toys VCR & misc. Napa NAPA ESTATE SALE 707-733-8016 Melissa Dinnerware set 42 pieces \$875. Boveria fish set, plat- ers, silverware \$1200. As- sorted Melissa crystal stemware, etc. Going into retirement home - DOWNSIZING Oakland Sat & Sun 10-4 2811 Chapman St. Hshld. Indoor Ware- house Sale. 1000's of items, Records, post- ers, collectables, toys, clothes, tools, musical equip. To much to list. Oakley MOVING/ESTATE SALE 1133 Bear River Ct. Fri/Sat/Sun, 8:00 - 7 Formal mahogany din- ing room, Refrig., furni- ture, clock, collectibles. All Furnishings. YARD SALE Sat. 3/5 8am to 1pm 4401 Blanc Ct. Furn., household items including tupperware, clothing, toys, outdoor furn., baby items, and much more. Pinole ESTATE SALE 1210 Oak Hill Ct Sunday Only 8-3pm Baby stuff, furni- ture, computer hardware, 10 yrs. accumulation, toys DVD's, VHS & lots of misc. items.	Pittsburg PLEASE COME JOIN US AT OUR "1ST ANNUAL SENIOR AUCTION" Antiques, Art, Arts and crafts, furn. electron- ics, vacuum cleaners, tools, items, quilts, high chr. name brands & Lots of Misc. MARCH 5, 2005 1:30-5:00 P.M. RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL 1025 W. & DIAMOND PITTSBURG, CA 94565 Pleasant Hill BOOK SALE Sat. 3/5, Friends of the P. H. Library, 2050 Oak Park Blvd. New, used & coll. books, CD's, Videos, & books on tape. Members at 2:30 Public at 10am til 3pm Rodeo 1030 ESTATE SALE 1030 Hawthorne Dr. Sat. (3/5), 9-3 PM Sun. (3/6), 10-2 PM Lots of housewares, books, LP's, china & flatware sets, crystal, dish, misc., sterling clothes, furniture, skis, garden tools, & many many more TREASURES! MOVING SALE Sat. 3/5, 9-4 343 Harris Ave. Hide-a-bed, computer desk, lamps, dinette set, am. furniture pcs., adult clothing, microwave, kit. items. Rossmoor ESTATE SALE Saturday (3/5), 9-4 pm 3490 Rossmoor Parkway #1, Entry 6 Duncan Phylis din. tbl, extra lvs. & pads w/ls chrs., new king bd., tri- ple dresser w/mirror, sofas, tbls, pics, old re- cords, cameras, phono- graph & misc. All in excel. cond. & reas. before sale for appt. info: (925) 820-6193 Date of sale (925) 833-4255. Cash Only. San Pablo MOVING SALE 2779 14th St. Sat. March 5, 9 - 1pm Furniture, crafts, kit- table w/chairs, refrig., dryer, microwave w/ stand, LP's & misc. items. All Must Go!	San Pablo MOVING sale saturday 3/5 9:30 am 1010 amador street Furn. Hshld. Items. Pwr. tools Tools San Ramon BIG NEIGHBORHOOD GAR. SALE (Multi fam.) SAT 3/5 8am to 12 noon. Baby furn. & clothes, small appli- cations, much more! 8993 Briar Oak Dr. Maps provided to other nine houses. BLOCK SALE BEERWOOD RIDGE Sat. 8am-1pm 139 Claremont Crest Dr. Aquarium, Baby clothes & items, Bdrm. furn. Books Coffee tbl, Couch Dine/Live rm. Furn. End table, hshld. items. Lamps, Tbl. Toys, TV & Lots of misc. ESTATE SALE PLUS MORE 2513 Twin Creeks Dr. SATURDAY 3/5 ONLY 8am to 3pm Oak Desk & Chair Small sofa & recliner, Medical walker, porta- ble baby table, Bar- stools, end table & lamp. Contact: plants. 925-829-1087 Something for EVERYONE! 1523 Astorville Drive Dougherty to Mon- arch, left on Astrblvd. SAT. ONLY 8-12pm Home accessories, hshld./kit. items, books & snow skis. Vallejo MOVING SALE Sat. 3/5, 9am-5pm. Various hshld. items. Antique dresser & tele- phone stand w/marble top, piano, entertain- ment ctr. & dining tbl. 1710 Napa St. The BIGGEST Job Board In The East Bay careerbuilder.com	Walnut Creek FRIDAY 9-3; SAT. 9-2 AND SUNDAY 9-2 THIS IS THE KIND OF ESTATE SALE YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED! Exquisite collectibles. Much sterling & SP jewelry, Royal Doulton, Wedgewood, Bayreuth, Tiffin, Jugs Ivory & bone pieces, steins, china cabinet, mirrors & lamps, deco. figurine w/light, lin- ens, Champion juicer, brass wood box, many fine figurines, Limoges miniatures, nest of ta- bles, pastel picture of painted desert, chaise lounge, dropleaf cof- fee tbl, plants & more! 1631 CARMEL DR. Parking limited in evening! (W.C. try W.C. Library parking lot) GARAGE SALE Sat. Mar. 5th 8-4pm 1662 Surrey Ct. sat. Nr Trestle Blvd./Bancroft Baby clothes, toys, Hshld. & d. items Items, curtains, books, All in mint cond. i HUGE ROMANCE SALE (LOS LOMAS HIGH SENIORLY MIA) 1460 S. MAIN ST. SAT. 3/5, 8-2PM QUALITY ITEMS! CASH ONLY! MULTI-FAM GAR. SALE 500 Walnut Ave March 5th 8-1PM Furn., toys & house- wares & more WEST-FAMILY MOVING/GARAGE SALE Sat 10-4/Sun 10-1:00 Between San Miguel & Walnut Blvd. Many antiques, decor furn., artwork, frames, chan- deliers, Royal Daltion dishes, kitch cabinets, cheap appliances, win- dow coverings, carpet, old sewing machine. FOR FURNITURE ONLY CALL 925-890-0250. NEIGHBORHOOD SALE Saturday (3/5), 9-2 pm 1923 Coventry Ct. (Tice Valley & Olympic) Furniture, bikes, toys & other misc. household items available. TREASURE SALE! Furn., antiques, collecti- bles, & much more! Fri & Sat 10am-5pm Sun. 12pm-4pm Cornucopia 1444 South Main St. 925-256-4486
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Who is your favorite team?

SPORTS

Friday, February 21, 2003

Alameda triples its pleasure

By Scott Simon

Alameda's triplets are the most famous in the world. They are the only triplets to have been born in the same hospital, at the same time, and to have been born to the same mother. The triplets, who are now 10 years old, are the result of a rare medical condition called superfecundation. Their mother, who is now 35, has given birth to several other children, but the triplets are the only ones to have been born at the same time and place.

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The triplets, who are now 10 years old,

Who is

your favorite team?

SPORTS

Friday, February 21, 2003

Section C

J • V

Alameda triples its pleasure

Hornets drill nine 3-pointers to outlast El Cerrito in an ACCAL matchup

By Scott Strain

Low by the horns was the "J" — and Alameda led.

The Hornets (17-5, 9-0 in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League) hit nine 3-point shots, including seven by sophomore guard Kayleigh Calandri, and went on to subdue El Cerrito 78-71 Thursday night at the Hornets' Nest in Alameda.

The loss knocked the Gauchos (17-4, 8-2) one-and-a-half games behind the Hornets in the ACCAL. Alameda has three league games left. El Cerrito has two. The Gauchos still have to play Berkeley.

Alameda was coming off an

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

excruciating 81-56 loss to Berkeley on Tuesday and came out a bit ragged against El Cerrito, which it had defeated 57-51 in El Cerrito on Jan. 17. The Gauchos, on the other hand, had trounced El Cerrito 60-31 on Tuesday, shutting out the Jets 14-0 in the first quarter.

"Personally, I wanted a more because we lost to Berkeley," Calandri said. "I thought we were just as good as Berkeley, so I took that (loss) out here tonight."

With Calandri firing in four 3-pointers in the first half, the Hornets had a 38-37 lead at the half. Alameda's Lucia Caliendo fired in eight of her 10 points in the first half, including two 3-pointers.

The game swung permanently away from El Cerrito in the first few moments of the third quarter.

For Nicole Catania, who stole the ball from Andeise McGrew underneath the Alameda basket and scored for 41-37. The Gauchos turned the ball over immediately after that and Calandri hit another 3-pointer for 44-37. El Cerrito called timeout with 7:05 left in the period and already had turned the ball over four times. The visitors never got back into it. Alameda extended the lead to 61-37 with eight seconds left in the third quarter, and she left in the third quarter, and she Gauchos, their inside game was on, were forced to go to the perimeter to get back into the game.

"I thought it was our battle on defense," Calandri said about the effort against El Cerrito. "If (the defense) wasn't there against Berkeley, I thought we had back against Berkeley, we didn't do that tonight."

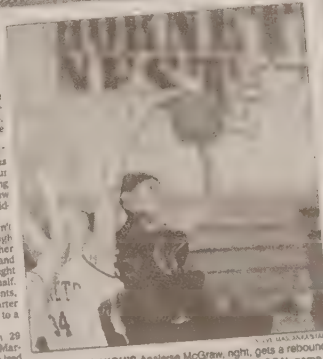
The key to Calandri's success was ball movement: the Gauchos

simply didn't get around the perimeter fast enough to challenge her. When she got the ball, she was open. She had the time to pass, set and shoot.

"It was a bad job of coaching," El Cerrito coach Ron Williams said. "That's it. I'm serious. Our substitution patterns were wrong and didn't work. Those first few moments of the third quarter didn't help either."

And when Calandri couldn't do it, she had more than enough help. Catania scored six of her 10 points in the third quarter and Christina Perricone had all eight of her points in the second half. Kaman Willis had 12 points, including six in the first quarter when the two teams battled to a 18-18 tie.

Calandri finished with 29 points to lead all scorers. Marcia Green had 23 points to lead El Cerrito and Jordan McCormick had 14.



EL CERRITO HIGH'S Andeise McGrew, right, gets a rebound over Alameda's Shahida Grason-Regin in their ACCAL game.

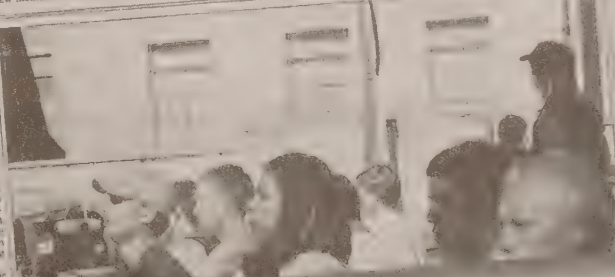
ACCAL NOTEBOOK

Oilers set for NCS opener

By Orlando Molina

After a seven-rounding week, the Alameda Oilers (1-0) will begin their season with a game against the Richmond High School Oilers (0-0) in the first round of the North Coast Section (NCS) playoffs.

At the start of the week, the Oilers (1-0) found after the



BSAL NOTEBOOK

Canceled games hurt Salesian

By Scott Strain

The Salesian High School boys soccer team has two Bay Shore Athletic League matches judged to be "no matches," and they may have lost the Chino Hills North Coast Section berth.

Salesian finished the league season with a 9-4-3 record, fifth in the BSAL. Two victories in the canceled matches might have

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
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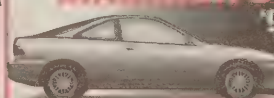
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Friday, March 4, 2005

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Spring to it

BY MARY BETH BRECKENRIDGE
Knight Ridder Newspapers

In this age of clean-burning fuels, vacuum cleaners and Scotchgard, you'd think the house-scouring ritual of spring cleaning would have been left in the dust. Yet it hangs on as tenaciously as grime to a miniblind.

More than three-quarters of Americans still engage in spring cleaning, according to a survey by the Soap and Detergent Association. That surprised the association, which expected the figure to be a little lower, spokesman Brian Sansoni said.

Nevertheless, he thinks he understands why.

Springtime evokes freshness, getting outdoors, being active after being cooped up all winter, Sansoni said. You want to open the windows. You want your whole house or apartment to be fresh.

If the practice of spring cleaning hasn't changed much, the way we approach it has. Cleaning products work more effectively and efficiently than ever. More homeowners have the means to hire out the big jobs. And couples are more likely to share the work rather than relegating it to the woman of the house, said Linda Hallam, editor of the Better Homes and Gardens book *Making a Home: Housekeeping for Real Life*.

Hallam does her seasonal cleaning with her husband, and she likes the renewal associated with it. Especially in areas with cold winters, where houses are closed up for months, people seem to enjoy greeting spring with a thorough cleaning and freshening, she said.

Still, that doesn't mean you have to clean the house from top to bottom just because the calendar says you should, said Jeff Campbell, owner of a San Francisco cleaning company called The Clean Team and author of the book *Spring Cleaning*. He advocates cleaning as it is needed instead, and defines spring cleaning as the stuff that you don't do every week but that you can't ignore forever—big chores like cleaning windows and walls, stripping floors, cleaning carpets and polishing metals.

There's something about a clean house, a clean room, Sansoni said. It does wonders for the psyche.

So, you think your psyche could use a lift? Then dive right in—but don't grab the Pine-Sol and the sponge mop just yet. You'll get a lot more done with less energy if you plan your cleaning strategy, the experts said.

Hallam's book recommends making the rounds of your house, inside and out, and jotting down every project that needs to be done. Write those chores on three sheets of paper, one for large projects that require a half-day or more, one for projects that require two to three hours, and one for small projects. Then prioritize the projects according to what needs to be done most—or, as Campbell suggested, what makes you the craziest. Succeeding at the most odious task will motivate you to tackle others, he said.

Once you've decided what you're going to do, make a list of the cleaning supplies you need, the association suggested. When you make your regular trip to the grocery store or drugstore, stock up.

But before you even pick up a dust rag, cleaning experts recommend getting rid of clutter and organizing the house. Give away, sell or throw away anything you no longer need. If you're not sure, Ward suggested asking yourself three questions: When did I use it last? Do I really need it? And where will I put it?

If you're still not sure, box the stuff up and seal the carton. After a year, pitch the whole thing if you haven't opened it yet, cleaning-company owner and author Schar Ward said.

When it's time to start cleaning, the experts recommend limiting your steps by finishing an entire room and an entire floor before moving on. Take all your supplies with you, so you don't have to make extra trips back and forth or up and down stairs.

Cleaning the whole house will be exercise enough. But just think how good you'll feel when it's done.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY
CHRIS WARE/KRT

THE RIGHT SUPPLIES

Cleaning pros typically recommend carrying most of your supplies with you, which means you need something to carry them in. Some prefer an apron designed to hold cleaning implements, similar to a tool belt. Others prefer a plastic bucket or a caddy with a handle.

The pros also differ somewhat about which cleaning supplies should be put in that carrier, but these are commonly recommended:

- * All-purpose cleaner.
- * Glass cleaner.
- * Nonabrasive cleanser for the bathroom.
- * Disinfectant cleaner.
- * Sponge.
- * Cleaning cloths (heavy-duty cloths for floors and lightweight ones for dusting).
- * Old toothbrush.

In addition to the things you carry with you, you'll need supplies for bigger jobs, such as a bucket, a mop (if you don't want to wash floors on your hands and knees), a squeegee for windows and either a vacuum cleaner with attachments or an upright vacuum and a separate portable vacuum with attachments. Other nice-to-have items are a lamb's wool duster on a telescopic pole, a plastic spatula or other scraping tool, a safety razor in a holder for scraping off really stubborn gunk, oil soap, a nylon scrubber, a whisk broom and a dustpan.

Even if you carry your supplies in a tote, wear an apron with pockets while you clean. It'll give you a place to stash the things you pick up as you go.

WHEN TO HIRE

Sometimes the best approach to spring cleaning is knowing what to do yourself and what to hire out.

If you're short on time and helpers, it might be worth the expense to turn some of the big jobs over to professionals. They have the know-how and equipment to tackle the jobs faster and more efficiently than most homeowners can, notes Better Homes and Gardens' *Making a Home: Housekeeping for Real Life*.

Specifically, the book recommends that you consider hiring out window cleaning, especially if you have a two-story house or storm windows; gutter and/or roof cleaning; and carpet cleaning.

Don't overlook neighborhood kids or college students as cheap sources of labor, either. You might hire them to do simple yet labor-intensive tasks, such as helping you move seasonal clothes in or out of storage.

10 CHORES TO DO

Take care of these 10 cleaning chores and you'll give your house a fresh start for the warm season.

1. Wash windows: Clean storm windows before you store them for the summer, and don't forget to clean screens before you install them.

2. Freshen bedding: Strip the beds and launder all the washable bedding, including blankets, mattress pads and pillow protectors. Dry clean the things that can't be washed. Freshen pillows by having them professionally cleaned, hanging them outside or tumbling them in the clothes dryer on the air cycle.

3. Clean window treatments: Launder washable curtains, or just tumble them in the dryer to freshen them. Vacuum nonwashable draperies with an upholstery brush, or have them cleaned. Clean blinds and shutters (disposable wipes that fit over a hand are useful for this), or take down blinds and wash them.

4. Clean carpets, rugs and floors: Launder washable throw rugs, and have the other rugs professionally cleaned. Clean hard floors using the best method for the finish.

5. Clean light fixtures and ceiling fans: Remove and wash glass globes. Wipe light bulbs with a damp cloth, then dry. If a bulb has burned out in a hard-to-reach chandelier, change all the bulbs at the same time because the others probably are about to burn out, too.

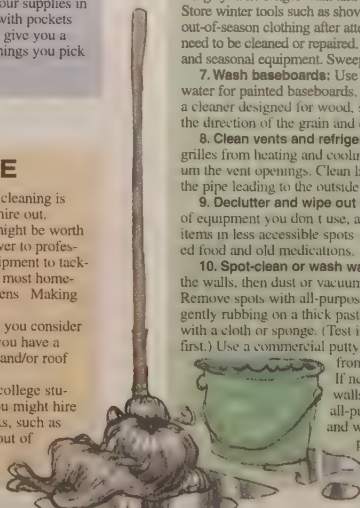
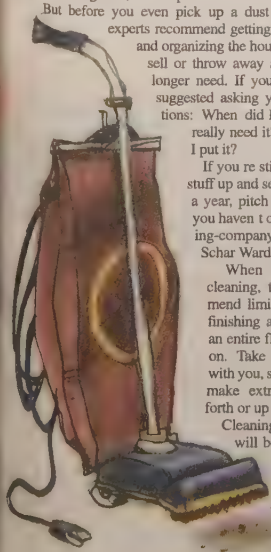
6. Declutter closets and storage areas: Sort out the things you no longer want and the items that don't belong. Store winter tools such as shovels and scrapers, and store out-of-season clothing after attending to garments that need to be cleaned or repaired. Bring out spring clothes and seasonal equipment. Sweep garage and shed floors.

7. Wash baseboards: Use a household cleaner and water for painted baseboards. For wood baseboards, use a cleaner designed for wood, such as oil soap. Wipe in the direction of the grain and dry immediately.

8. Clean vents and refrigerator coils: Remove the grilles from heating and cooling vents so you can vacuum the vent openings. Clean lint from the dryer vent and the pipe leading to the outside. Vacuum refrigerator coils.

9. Declutter and wipe out cabinets, drawers: Get rid of equipment you don't use, and store seldom-used items in less accessible spots. Pitch stale spices, outdated food and old medications.

10. Spot-clean or wash walls: Take everything off the walls, then dust or vacuum the ceilings and walls. Remove spots with all-purpose cleaner and water, or by gently rubbing on a thick paste of baking soda and water with a cloth or sponge. (Test in an inconspicuous place first.) Use a commercial putty cleaner to remove spots from nonwashable wallpaper. If necessary, most painted walls can be washed with an all-purpose cleaner or ammonia and water. Walls covered in flat paint, however, often can't be washed successfully.



Save early — and often — for a more secure retirement

BY SUSAN TOMPOR
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

DETROIT — Baby boomers won't like getting smacked with this reality check. But if you've saved only one year's salary toward your retirement, well baby, you have to ramp it up.

Sure, \$50,000 in a 401(k) plan might seem like a lot of money

when you're in your 40s or 50s. The average account balance for an active saver in his or her 40s was \$66,753 last year, if the person was at that same company for five to 10 years, according to a study by the Employee Benefit Research Institute in Washington, D.C.

For someone in his or her 50s, the average was \$73,405. (The fig-

ures include money rolled into that company's plan from another plan. The data don't include a 401(k) kept at an old company or money rolled over into an IRA.)

On paper, some of this stuff sounds good. But is it enough money? No, not for most folks.

"One times earnings is way too little. It's dangerously low," said

Laurence Kotlikoff, economics professor at Boston University and co-author of "The Coming Generational Storm." (\$27.95, MIT Press.)

Worse yet: Some boomers haven't even saved a year's pay. Another study shows about 29 percent of workers ages 55 and older had saved less than \$25,000 for retirement.

It's extremely hard to say how much savings is enough.

Does everyone really need at least \$1 million in savings to retire, as some reports once suggested?

It would be nice considering that you'd be able to start taking \$40,000 a year in retirement and later add extra to cover inflation. To make money last in retire-

ment, it's smarter to start a year earlier, says Fahund, senior advisor for T. Rowe Price. Still, who can save? So do you give up? Absolutely not. Consider giving up. See RETIREMENT

Insider information on important summer camp check

BY KIM BOATMAN
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Sending your kid off to overnight camp for the first time is a rite of passage both for child and parent. It's fraught with excitement and trepidation, not to mention laundry labels, contraband candy and frantic checks of the packing list.

We wanted inside information, the sort of advice that doesn't always find its way onto camp Web sites or packing lists. So we consulted veteran campers, counselors and camp directors.

Much of the advice is directed toward the traditional, outdoorsy camp experience, but a good portion should apply to almost any camp.

Millions of children go off to all manner of camps each summer and return home just fine. And then there's the sort of irrational thought that even the calmest parent finds fitting through their head: My child will be the first kid ever to starve at summer camp.

Rest assured that most camps work hard to ease the separation. They console, cajole and counsel. They make the kids feel better, too. Almost all camps offer packing lists and advice.

We talked to David Somers, camping services director for YMCA Camp Jones Gulch in the Santa Cruz mountains; Andrew Townsend, director of Kennolyn Camps in the Santa Cruz Mountains; camp consultant Bertram Chatham, board member of the state and national American Camp Association organizations; and Christopher A. Thurber, author of "The Summer Camp Handbook."

And about the dangers of starvation in camp? Many camps now offer a peanut butter and jelly sandwich bar at meal time.

Singalong songs

It's important to bring a little campfire knowledge to camp. Not that the lyrics to "Kumbaya" are

tricky, but being prepared doesn't hurt. So get ready to sing — loud and enthusiastically. Here are some popular campfire songs — plus the lyrics to a favorite sing-around, shared by a veteran Girl Scouts camper.

1. "Kumbaya"
2. "Black Socks"
3. "This Land is Your Land"
4. "Cat's in the Hat"
5. "The Boxer"

BLACK SOCKS

Black socks, black socks
They never get dirty
The longer you wear them,
The blacker they get.
Someday, I think I shall wash them,
but something keeps telling me
don't do it yet,
not yet, not yet, not yet. (Repeat.)

Camp resources

For more information on children and camps:
www.campparents.org, an American Camp Association Web site directed at parents.

"The Summer Camp Handbook: Everything You Need to Find, Choose and Get Ready for Overnight Camp" — and Skip the Homesickness" (Independent Pub-

lishers Group, 247 pp., \$14.95), by Christopher A. Thurber and Jon C. Malinowski, offers advice about the camp experience.

Packing

Camp consultant Bertram Chatham tells parents: "Always supervise the packing, regardless of the age of the child." Then, the adults should take charge of the bag until camp. What follows is a list of common contraband — and commonsense no-nos.

Candy: "Candy in camp is like cigarettes in prison," Chatham says, "it's the currency."

Pocketknives: Dads imagine sons whittling by the lake. Camps don't want campers packing weaponry.

Electronics: Consider camp Vacation Unplugged.

Scented items: "No matter how much you absolutely adore your peppermint-scented body lotion, please leave it at home," advises our veteran Girl Scouts camper. Best not to attract the bees with lovely aromas.

Silly string, water balloons and environmentally unfriendly

items: Save the environment and the sanity of camp counselors.

Camp essentials

If you want to pack like a veteran, follow these suggestions from counselors, campers and camp directors.

Pack wacky: Sure, you need the umpteen T-shirts and changes of underwear. But don't forget the silly hats, crazy Hawaiian shirts and any piece of odd clothing that might find a use in camp skits.

Extra flashlight batteries: Courage comes in a D cell.

At least one and a half times the number of recommended socks and underwear: They're easily lost, and then there's the dirt and grime factor.

A black laundry marker: Campers can label the clothing they buy at camp.

A disposable camera: Making memories is one thing, having evidence to share is another.

Some final advice

Advice from our experts: Remember the water bottle, the one item most often forgotten. "I don't have 200 water bottles," says

David Somers, camping services director for YMCA Camp Jones Gulch.

A little detergent stuffed into jeans pockets works wonders in the laundry. Campers and counselors bring small boxes of detergent to Camp Kennolyn in the Santa Cruz Mountains, says director Andrew Townsend.

Never open a returning

camper's bag. The bag is best opened outside, where you can get the dirt. Label everything: underwear, pillow, everything. Don't be a fussy clean, comfortable camper or the camper of the bag attached

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Breakfast muffins for peanut butter lovers

MS Peanut butter is one of America's favorite foods. According to peanutbutterlovers.com, a Web site devoted to peanut butter lovers, peanut butter is found in about 75 percent of American homes and is considered a staple like bread and milk. While peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are still kids' favorite peanut butter foods, when peanut butter is used in other ways such as in muffins or in sauces for pasta, meat and vegetables, kids love these dishes as much as adults. Peanut butter has been around for centuries. It dates back to as early as the 15th century when the Chinese also made crushed peanuts into stews. Peanut butter lovers everywhere will enjoy these delicious "Rise and Shine Muffins," courtesy of peanutbutterlovers.com. Made with crunchy peanut butter, they can be enjoyed not only for breakfast, but any time of day.

Peanut butter has been around for centuries. It dates back to as early as the 15th century.

phosphorus and magnesium. However, it contains some fat. Fortunately, 80 percent of peanut butter's fat is unsaturated (the good fat), and only three grams of it are saturated (bad) fat.

Peanut butter lovers everywhere will enjoy these delicious "Rise and Shine Muffins," courtesy of peanutbutterlovers.com. Made with crunchy peanut butter, they can be enjoyed not only for breakfast, but any time of day.

RISE AND SHINE MUFFINS

- 1 cup high fiber bran cereal, crushed
- 1 egg
- 2/3 cup skim milk
- 2 egg whites
- 1/2 cup crunchy peanut butter
- 13/4 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup coarsely grated apple
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 cup coarsely grated zucchini
- 1 tablespoon orange peel
- 1/2 cup coarsely grated carrots
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 2/3 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon lite salt
- 1 teaspoon maple extract
- Cooking spray

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Mix the bran cereal and milk in a large bowl and let stand until softened. Fold in the peanut butter, apple, zucchini, carrots, brown sugar and maple extract until mixed. In a small bowl, beat the egg and egg whites and then fold into the bran mixture. In a medium bowl, combine the flour, baking powder, orange peel, cinnamon and salt. Add the dry ingredients to the bran mixture, but be careful not to over-mix.

Spray the cups of a muffin pan with cooking spray. Divide the batter evenly among the muffin cups. Place a shallow pan of water on the bottom rack of the oven to prevent the muffins from drying. Place the muffins on the middle rack and bake for 20 to 25 minutes until golden brown. Remove from muffin pan and serve. Makes 12 servings of one muffin each.

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Hubert H. Humphrey (former Senator from Minnesota)

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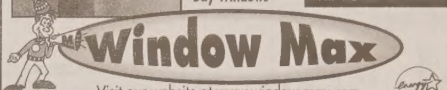
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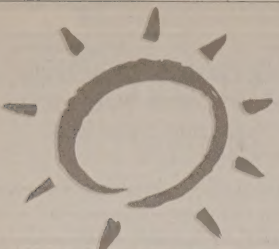
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Community Resources provides products and services for fundraising in Northern California. Located in Concord and owned by long time Contra Costa residents Tom & Erin Newlin, Community Resources has a variety of programs for all types and sizes of groups. From large schools to an individual class, club or sports team, they can help raise money

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"We have three kids from elementary to high school who are all involved in sports. We know the amount of time parents spend volunteering. We designed our programs to provide the results, and we do most of the work for them," says Tom.

Also, there is no limitation on the size of group Community Resources will work with. "Many fundraisers will not work with individual teams or classes," says Erin. "We can help groups of all sizes!"

With the wide variety of products, any group can find the program that is best suited for them, and still be different from the schools or other groups. The product list includes frozen cookie dough and other desserts, gift wrap, gift items, candles, calendars, jewelry, boxed chocolates, and much more including M&M and Hershey products.

Check out their web site at www.CommunityResourcesFundraising.com



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Castle Rock Arabians

Castle Rock Arabians summer camps are all about horses! Our 2 day camps are held one weekend a month or on holidays and are a great introduction to horseback riding or for the more advanced rider to achieve a higher level of riding skills. It also satisfies the need for your child to have personal time with a horse. Summer Camp starts June 13 Monday through Friday.

8 to 3 daily until September 2.

We are often asked: "How are campers divided?" We divide campers by age and skill levels. Our riders work in separate arenas at Levels I, II or III depending on their skill sets. We have initiated a "Tiny Rider" camp for the 4 to 6 year olds as an introduction to horseback riding on ponies that are just their size and are gentle with children.

How many weeks of camp should my child take? While one week of camp provides your child with a magical week of living with horses in a healthy outdoor environment, we recommend that for the serious horse lover, you consider enrolling for multiple weeks in order to allow your child to progress to the level of achievement that they wish to attain. Ask about our multiple week discounts.

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For information on early enrollment discounts or reservations, check www.castlerockarabians.com or call Nancy DuPont (925) 937 7661.



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Success in business and life many times depends upon the ability to express oneself with confidence and clarity. It is our purpose at the Monte Vista Institute to offer students the opportunity to learn communication skills in a friendly, individualized atmosphere.

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who attend the Summer Institute are better prepared for success. We are very excited about this year's camps and look forward to seeing you! For information and application contact David Matley at 925-552-2865, email: dmatley@aol.com David J. Matley Director



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Illuminating tips lighten up your home

ARA

Changing the lights in your home can immediately impact a room's atmosphere. Something as simple as lighting can dramatically change a room.

In most homes lighting doesn't take top priority. In fact, people commonly under-spend when it comes to lighting. Simple lighting tricks can have a powerful impact on the entire environment. As a result, a little lighting can have a very dramatic effect on a room or a space.

Lighting falls into three basic functions: general lighting, task lighting and feature lighting. The amount of light for a room has more to do with the room's use rather than any other criteria. For example in areas such as kitchens or home offices more task light is needed than a bedroom or a living room would require.

"Lighting can easily have the most dramatic impact on any environment," says Jeff Zwelling, co-founder of YLighting. "I have learned some great ideas from our best design clients. Here's a few that can help you make your homes and businesses look even better."

1. If you have dark corners, a well-placed floor lamp with a low voltage bulb can help brighten up the space.

2. Be aware of color — incandescent lighting looks great at night, but terrible in the day. Halogen lights create a more natural light effective for both day and night in the home.

3. The light from sconces should be diffused either by glass or paper shades.

4. There are several sources now for amber filament bulbs. When dimmed they feel like candlelight and create the warmest quality of

light. They can be great in a floor lamp near a sofa or chair since there is no harsh glare when you look up.

5. Recessed lighting can improve almost any design, accentuating key elements such as art and furniture. These are very useful to add as decorative and atmospheric elements to a room.

6. To enhance your home from the outside in, I prefer to under light landscapes and focus on functional lighting of organic elements such as trees and shrubs. My favorite trick is to light plants outside to create light inside. We have this outside of a dining room window and it really creates a different feeling at dinner parties.

7. For the bathroom to further reduce glare, opt for frosted white bulbs, rather than clear models and avoid fixtures with exposed bulbs.

— Courtesy of ARA Content



ARA CONTENT

Retirement

FROM PAGE 2

latte from Starbucks each morning for the next 10 years.

Stephen Utkus, director of the Vanguard Center for Retirement Research, said only about 34 percent of boomers are truly prepared for retirement.

Another 31 percent could reach their goals — if they saved more. And 35 percent are at risk.

To see if you're on track, you can look at Web sites from mutual fund companies and others. Some online calculators include: the American Savings Education Council at www.asec.org/ballpark and the National Retirement Planning Coalition at www.retireonlyourterms.org.

But online tools might not give you a complete picture.

Kolikoff created some sophisticated retirement planning software called the Economic Security Planner at www.esplanner.com. The fees range from \$149 to \$199.

To know if you are saving enough, he says you need to consider more than how much you'd get from a pension or Social Security.

You've got to consider costs related to your retirement years. Will you still have a child in college? Want to pay for a wedding? What about nursing home care?

And what kind of inheritance might you get? It can help a lot if you set aside a chunk of the money that Mom and Dad leave you for your own retirement savings — or paying down some debt instead of flying off to Las Vegas.

And savers need to remember that \$100,000 in a 401(k) doesn't mean they have \$100,000 to spend. If the money was saved on a pre-tax basis, as it often is, the 401(k) money is taxed when it is withdrawn in retirement.

And think about the times when things can throw you for a loop.

Many older baby boomers still

haven't recovered from the bear market that ravaged 401(k) plans in 2000, 2001 and 2002.

Many boomers in their 50s had an average account balance that was 9.3 percent lower in 2003 than 1999, according to the Employee Benefit Research Institute.

The answer to all this, sadly, is save more. If you're saving 5 percent of your pay now, go for 10 percent or 15 percent soon.

"Just sock it away, sock it away," Fahlund said.

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Remodeling versus moving

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOME BUILDERS

If you want to change your home, your other option besides remodeling is to find a new one. But more and more American families are deciding to stay put and improve their existing home. Here are some of the reasons:

■ Remodeling allows you to customize your home to meet your needs and desires. The only similar, but much more costly alternative, is to have a brand new custom home designed and built.

■ Remodeling means that you don't have to give up a familiar neighborhood and schools.

■ Remodeling is a more efficient use of your financial resources. According to the American Homeowner Foundation, selling your home and moving typically costs about 8 to 10 percent of the value of your current home. And much of this goes into moving expenses, closing costs,

and broker commissions — items that have no direct impact on your home's quality.

■ Remodeling can be stressful, but few experiences are more stressful than moving.

While there are many reasons that people choose to remodel, the bottom line is that remodeling makes your home a more enjoyable place to live. The intangible value of this pleasure needs to be considered, along with any resale value you hope to gain.

But there is no doubt that, as far as improving the sale of your home, all remodeling projects are not created equal. The general rule of thumb is that any remodeling project that brings your home up to the level of your neighbors' is a worthy investment. But it doesn't pay to be the most expensive house on the block — real estate experts recommend that a re-

modeling investment can raise the value of your home more than 10 to 15 percent above the median value of your neighborhood.

Remember that potential buyers will compare your home to ones newly built. They want to look at the design and amenities being in new homes. Great rooms, kitchen/family room, master bedrooms, suites and higher ceilings are a few of the features sought after by today's home buyers.

Each year, Remodeling magazine conducts its "Value" report to assess remodeling projects for the greatest return on investment. Not surprisingly, kitchen and bathroom remodels are at the top. These are two of the most used rooms in the home, so they receive the most attention from potential buyers.



THIS HEIGHT ADJUSTABLE floor lamp, left, has a 360-degree beam orientation and a transparent electrical wire that is wound spirally around the rod. Designer: Jasper Morrison. Occhio, above, is both a multiposition spotlight and ambient table lamp combined. Designer: Pablo Pardo.

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